

Monday August 12 1996

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Sport

- FA Charity Shield: United show no mercy in 4-0 victory
- Second Test: Knight checks Pakistan with maiden century
- Motor Racing: Williams make history in Hungary

Media

Can women report sport?

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Fury at 8-baby birth bonus

Parents sign up to £125,000 per child

Vivek Chaudhary

THE spectre of a sliding price scale for unborn foetuses brought new meaning to the term chequebook journalism yesterday as the arrangements made between a woman carrying eight embryos, the News of the World and public relations impresario Max Clifford provoked a public outcry.

Mr Clifford said the size of the deal that Mandy Allwood has signed for her story will depend on the number of children are born alive. Ms Allwood and her partner, Paul Hudson, stand to make around £1 million, or £125,000 per baby, if all eight are born but considerably less if only two or three are born, he said.

The couple, who have already sold their story to the News of the World for an undisclosed sum, are also receiving offers from television and commercial companies and newspapers from around the world, according to Mr Clifford.

The deal has raised ethical concerns over Ms Allwood's decision to keep all eight babies. She has been advised by doctors to undergo a selective abortion of six of the embryos or face losing all eight and putting her own life at risk.

Quentin Davies, the Tory MP for Stamford and Spalding, who has brought a private members' bill aimed at curbing chequebook journalism, said yesterday: "It's clear that chequebook journalism has plunged new depths. I hope no doctor will allow his opinion to be influenced by these considerations. The whole thing is very squalid."

Dame Jill Knight, Conservative MP for Edgubaston and chairwoman of the Tory backbench health committee, said:

"It seems as if this woman is selling her body and her baby and is trying to get as much money as possible for them."

Ms Allwood, aged 31, of Southill, West Midlands, told yesterday's News of the World: "I'm deliriously happy. I want nature to take its course. I know that some people will call us irresponsible, but as far as I'm concerned, the more the merrier."

Mr Clifford said that, despite the nature of the deal, the health of Ms Allwood and her eight babies was being put before any financial considerations.

He said: "The deal varies according to how many of the babies are born... that's the market forces, the reality of the situation. If Mandy was to give birth to two or three healthy children... lots of people have done that. If Mandy were to give birth to seven or eight healthy children, which is what she's hoping, then that would be a huge world wide event. Of course it's bound to affect how much she receives. What I've put together is a package that gives them the maximum possible benefit."

According to the News of the World, Ms Allwood, who was a son from a previous marriage, became pregnant after undergoing fertility treatment at a private clinic and resuming sexual relations, against the advice of doctors who warned her that she ran the risk of a multiple pregnancy.

Mr Hudson, aged 37, said the thought of aborting six embryos was "too horrible to contemplate." He added: "Our eight babies were obviously meant to be."

However, Ms Allwood's doctor, Professor Kypros Nicolaides, head of foetal medicine at King's College hospital, said she was putting her life at risk and stood a strong chance of losing all eight babies.

Speaking on BBC Radio 4's The World This Weekend, Phil Hall, editor of the News of the World, denied that Ms Allwood would try to give birth to all eight for the financial rewards involved. "We've agreed a sum of money should she give birth to eight children and we've agreed to discuss the situation with her should it change."

Ms Allwood's decision to reject selective abortion has been welcomed by anti-abortion groups, which dismissed suggestions that she was doing it for financial gain. Phyllis Bowman, of the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child, said: "As we understand it, she had decided to keep her babies before the matter of money arose. In her circumstances it must now be very difficult to resist offers."

The Department of Health and the British Medical Association are expected to comment on the conditions underpinning the sale of Ms Allwood's story.

Woman could die, page 5



Tassos Isaac, a Greek Cypriot, was killed and more than 50 others from both sides of the Cypriot community hurt in clashes yesterday

PHOTOGRAPH: COSTAS KYRIAKIDES

Cyprus bikers' protest ends in killing

More than 50 hurt in divided island's worst clashes in years

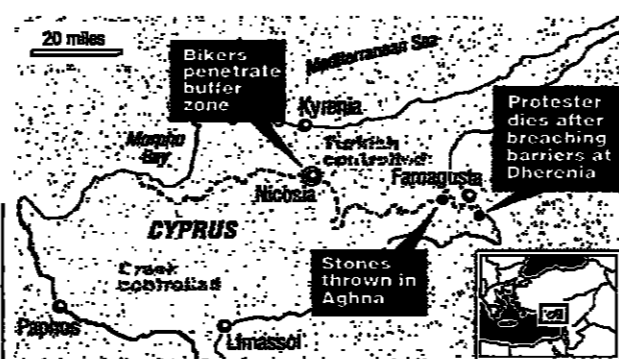
Chris Drake in Nicosia

A YOUNG Greek Cypriot was beaten to death yesterday and more than 50 people from both sides of the communal divide were wounded as the worst clashes for years flared across the partitioned island.

The violence broke out when groups of Greek Cypriots refused to accept attempts by the government to cancel a demonstration by motorcyclists intent on forcing their way through the United Nations buffer zone — which separates the two communities — to protest at Turkey's occupation of the north.

Tassos Isaac, aged 34, died of head injuries, according to a doctor at Paralimni hospital near Dherinla. Witnesses said he was among those trying to force their way on foot or on motorcycles through barbed wire around the zone, and was beaten by Turkish Cypriot counter-demonstrators. Standing by his assailants were policemen from the self-declared Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

The UN spokesman, Waldemar Rokoszewski, said troops from the Turkish side fired at bikers after they drove through the ceasefire line. Attempts by President Glafos Clerides to call off the demonstration came too late.



Many hundreds of bikers were already heading to a gathering point as the chief organiser, George Hadjicostas, made the announcement. He was seized and had to be escorted away by police for his own protection. Observers had predicted that the demonstration could lead to serious injuries. But angry bikers, supported by Greek Cypriots in cars and on foot, headed towards the buffer zone at various points along its 112-mile length. Outside Nicosia, they used a car to tow away a Greek

military barricade and raced across. British troops from the 39th Regiment, Royal Artillery, attached to the UN peacekeeping force, chased after them and formed a human chain to keep the two communities apart as Greek Cypriots started fires and threw stones.

Then came news that clashes had spread to areas around the British sovereign base at Dhekelia in the south-east.

Four Greek Cypriot television channels carried the scenes live, which enabled word to be passed by mobile phone directly to demonstrators who then headed for the trouble spots.

The British troops at Dhekelia tried to maintain a low profile, leaving the issue of law and order to 125 Cypriot members of the base's police force.

The demonstrators forced their way past, coming into direct conflict with Turkish Cypriot civilians and the north's military forces, including Turkish troops armed with light machine guns. Fires lit by the Greek dem-

onstrators sent dense clouds of smoke billowing into the air, adding to the confusion, and then shots rang out, injuring several Greek Cypriot demonstrators and at least one policeman from the British base.

Soon afterwards, television pictures showed a soldier from the Turkish side pulling out a handgun and opening fire, with later reports saying

two youths had been hit. Turkish Cypriot authorities insisted that only warning shots had been fired into the air.

The original plan had been for the bikers, supported by groups from the European Motorcycle Federation, to gain international attention and force some sort of reunion in Cyprus. That prospect is now even more remote than ever.

Ulster's marching tensions abate

David Sharrock, Ireland Correspondent

THE year's most tense weekend of loyalist and republican parades in Northern Ireland ended last night with another confrontation between Catholics and Protestants but also with relief that the worst of the marching season is over.

Thousands of republicans rallied in Belfast to commemorate the 25th anniversary of internment but headed calls from the platform to disperse quietly. Security was tight and police kept flag-waving loyalists behind a cordon of armoured vehicles as the

Sinn Fein supporters passed close to the Shankill Road. The rally took place after sporadic overnight violence in Londonderry. An Apprentice Boys rally there on Saturday had threatened to plunge Ulster back into widespread violence, but the Protestant organisation defused the tension by accepting a police ban on marching along a stretch of the city's walls which overlook the Catholic Bogside.

Garry Adams, the Sinn Fein president, who last year told supporters the IRA "haven't gone away, you know", did not speak at yesterday's Belfast rally beyond introducing the main address, delivered by Dodie McGuinness.

Ms McGuinness, who was elected to represent West Belfast in the May elections, concentrated on Sinn Fein's increasing electoral support and the need for a comprehensive settlement of the annual marching season crisis.

"We uphold the right of the loyal institutions to march but that does not include the right to march over anyone," Ms McGuinness said. "We don't have to like what Unionism represents... but we do not seek to destroy the heritage or culture of that Protestant community."

It was a theme picked up by Mr Adams as he spoke with reporters. "It is not a security problem, it is a political prob-

lem. The annual crisis of marches can be resolved if there is a proactive policy by the British government."

Mr Adams said the decision of the Apprentice Boys' governor, Alistair Simpson, to negotiate with Bogside residents "shows the stupidity and bigotry of David Trimble's position" not to talk to people in the Garvaghy Road, Portadown, during last month's stand-off with the Orange Order at Drumcree.

But as he was speaking a confrontation was developing between nationalists in Belaghy, Co Londonderry, and members of the Protestant Royal Black Preceptory who were attending church.

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Hand on wallet for the Grand Old Party

Every candidate for the American presidency has his price, and everyone outside the 1996 Republican convention is trying to sell you something

Monday sketch



Peter Preston

YOU MAY, I guess, already have seen the television pictures of \$300,000 of fireworks lighting San Diego Bay, 6,500 pinnacles of the pyrotechnic art blending Pezari Harbour and Apocalypse Now across the Pacific sky. Or, put it another way, if you haven't caught the pictures, the Republican Party will be pig sick. What, otherwise, is the point of all that boodle going up in red, white and blue smoke?

We began this party convention with a calculated bang (uncalculated whimpers follow later). But the site of the political revels itself, an ocean liner of a hall parked beside the yacht harbour, seems almost puny heart of the matter. Only half those who want to get in at any one time have seats available. Half of the del-

egates, and half of the press will need to get out every minute of the next four days to avoid rhetorical scalding. That shouldn't be a problem. The convention centre is really only a political people parking lot surrounded by many more acres of trailers, lorries and cabins bearing the name of every big television company on earth, and possibly Mars. You can barely glimpse the sea for TV clobber. Those monsters will need to be constantly fed with hot and cold running interviews. And, as we pause for These Messages about juicy burgers and heartburn, there is always a stroll in the sun down the front to Seaport Village.

The shopkeepers of this expansively twice complex (the Seaside Giraffe sells yachting and safari kit) have seen an easy buck coming and stocked accordingly. Buy a gold-and-jewel encrusted GOP elephant brooch the size of an egg yolk. Ponder a power elephant with a golden dove on its back for \$100. Think about His and Hers rag doll elephants called Mr President and the First Lady for \$40 a trunk.

Most of the merchandising is innocently, mindlessly patriotic. A pot black Scots terrier with the Star and Stripes round his hindquarters; a giant Pooh Bear from Huga-



Bob Dole introduces his running mate, Jack Kemp, to supporters in Kansas over the weekend PHOTOGRAPH: STEPHAN SAVICIA

Bear similarly attired, and 40 per cent discounted already. They all know about wrapping everything that sells in the flag. But you can find the billful shopkeeper too. (How about "The Clinton famous Yo-Yo... spins on everything" from Alamo Flags, with its stinky little packet claim: "Made by legal Americans"?)

I was tempted by only one of the many Republican T-shirts. "When I grow up, I want to be President," it said. Fifty years after he grew up, Bob Dole still appears to have that yen. Heaven alone knows why. The best buys in San Diego aren't in Seaport but six or so blocks back from the sea in the Gaslamp district they once

called Stinger: 71 saloons, 120 whorehouses, headlines around the world when Police Chief Keno Wilson rounded up 136 ladies one 1911 night. Ken Clich and Junior run a minute shop called the Gaslamp Museum on Market Street. It is treasure trove. The Cliches have a special Wyatt Earp number running this

week. Did you know that Earp was a lifelong Republican? That the crooked Democratic sheriff of Tombstone, Johnny Behan, was up to his dirty neck in the gunfight at the OK corral? There turns out to be a great deal about Wyatt Earp that Kevin Costner didn't mention. A smouldering old photo-

graph of a dark-haired girl, see-through dress slashed almost to the waist, sits at the back of the tiny museum. She looks like Louise Brooks in The Blue Angel; memorably beautiful. This, it transpires, is Josie Marcus, the young dancer and mistress of the aforementioned Behan, who fell in love with Earp and married him. Lucky old Wyatt, with his droopy moustache and thin, prim lips.

They moved together to San Diego for a while, where Earp owned saloons and gambling halls and grew rich. The most famous marshal in the West turned boxing referee and held the ring when Bob Fitzsimmons fought Tom Starkey. (He prudently wore his six-gun for the occasion.)

Clich makes his basic living selling political memories, though. They fill the front of the shop, yellow manifestos, grinning early shots of Tricky Dicky, banners and posters and buttons.

Never throw away a campaign button. They may rust or scratch down the decades, but John F. Kennedy for 1960 will fetch \$60 and Franklin D. Roosevelt for 1936 and '44 (in bargain pack) a cool \$125. There's a Ladies for I Freedom button (he sent them up from Texas to the convention with half a ton of free toffees to dish out).

But it is the names you quickly forgot or perhaps never knew which return with a jolt, and echo across the Bay. William Miller? John J. Sparkman? Their faces are on the buttons all right. Miller grinning below Barry Goldwater, Sparkman riding with Adlai Stevenson in '52. The distant, departed mates of candidates who never made it, the carriers of pitchers of spit which never even grew warm.

Bob Dole, doubling with Gerald Ford on their button, might have found such rusing oblivion close around him. But he's top of the new ticket: with Jack Kemp, as it turns out. The media caravan heaves with electronic excitement. Dole and Kemp, Sparkman and Kemp, Bill Miller and Kemp, Sergeant Shriver and Kemp. The world turns, the names blur. Did the second man ever make a difference? Can anybody but the main man count at last knockings?

There is a slim, white volume at the back of a Gaslamp shelf. Thirty dollars, from \$1 at publication, and worth every cent. It's called The Wisdom of Spiro T. Agnew. Before I leave San Diego, I'll give it to my bag. We'll need some wisdom that lasts.

Oddly matched unbelievers, page 6

Chechen peace plan in tatters



A Chechen fighter dodges sniper fire in the central market of the capital, Grozny. Separatists fought fierce battles with Russian troops yesterday for control of the city as Russia's prime minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, announced emergency measures in Moscow PHOTOGRAPH: ROBERT KING

As fighting rages, Russian plans to send in extra troops and declare a state of emergency may be to no avail. **James Meek** in Moscow reports

BORIS YELTSIN'S policy for ending the war in Chechnya lay in ruins last night as the Russian prime minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, called for more troops to be sent to the out-of-control territory and preparations got under way for the declaration of a state of emergency there. Mr Chernomyrdin's comments were the starkest indication so far of how grave the crisis in Chechnya has become since a large force of rebel fighters seized control of most of the capital, Grozny, last week. Yesterday, as fighting continued to rage in Grozny, and with rebels still entrenched in two other towns, Gudermes and Argun, Russian military sources said that up to 200 of their troops had been killed, dozens were missing and as many as 800 had been wounded. Before Mr Yeltsin's re-election as president on July 3, two peace deals were signed between Moscow and the separatists, envisaging a full change of prisoners and the

withdrawal of all but two Russian military units from Chechnya. Mr Yeltsin also promised that conscripts would no longer have to serve in the republic. Mr Chernomyrdin made his call for federal forces in Chechnya to be strengthened after an emergency meeting of the government's Chechen settlement committee in Moscow yesterday. He claimed it did not conflict with Mr Yeltsin's earlier decrees on solving the crisis, but it was hard to see how this could be the case. "First of all we need to solve the problem we have now, and then move to negotiations with the rebels," he said. "But there will have to be negotiations eventually." He said that "radical measures" were needed to settle the crisis, and that the justice minister had been given three days to draw up terms for the declaration of a state of emergency. The prime minister, who had a meeting with Mr Yeltsin earlier in the day, seemed determined to take charge of

the Chechen situation after days of vacillation by the Russian leadership as the situation worsened last week. Alexander Lebed, the president's national security adviser, made a lightning visit yesterday to the border between Chechnya and the Russian territory of Dagestan after being appointed Mr Yeltsin's special representative to the region. Interfax news agency said the former general might meet separatist representatives. It is not clear what difference a state of emergency would make to Chechnya, where Russian troops and Chechen rebels operate according to their own rough justice and a despised puppet regime loyal to Moscow makes ineffectual attempts to impose its will. Confused and contradictory reports from Grozny yesterday spoke of rebel detachments still roaming parts of the ruined city freely, and a steady breakdown of basic services for the thousands of civilians trapped by fighting. Both sides claimed to have

control of the city centre, although they agreed the battle was more and more coming to resemble the desperate, costly struggle for Grozny when Russian troops first stormed it in January 1995. Interfax quoted rebel spokesman as saying the Russians had switched tactics from assaults by armour and infantry to attacks by small groups of soldiers backed up by artillery. They were suffering heavy losses but were advancing. A spokesman for Russian forces said their troops "had



Viktor Chernomyrdin... 'radical measures' needed

virtually no rear", presumably a euphemism for being surrounded. The dilemma, he said, was whether to "storm the areas occupied by the bandits directly, with huge losses, or to soften the targets up with artillery and aviation beforehand, with the inevitable destruction of buildings". Russian troops did appear to have established an intermittent corridor to the group of government buildings in the centre of Grozny which last week seemed in danger of falling to the rebels. General Anatoly Kvashnin, commander of the Russian army's North Caucasian military district and the officer who appears to be in charge of driving the rebels out of Grozny, said after leaving a meeting of the Chechen settlement commission in Moscow that it had discussed building a ring of earthworks around the city to prevent separatists escaping. He spoke against the idea, saying it would harm the civilian population. However, he may simply believe that the Russian military is not capable of carrying out such an operation successfully. In January Chechen rebels easily slipped out of a small village which was supposedly surrounded by a Russian ring of steel.

Edinburgh 'has outlived its spirit, aims and ideals'

Dan Glaister Arts Correspondent

THE 50th Edinburgh Festival got what it most needed yesterday: a hint of controversy. Giving the inaugural address, the linguistic philosopher, Professor George Steiner, questioned the wisdom of continuing with an enterprise that has become one of the largest and commercially most successful arts festivals in the world. Mr Steiner, delivering the first University of Edinburgh Festival Lecture, said: "To know when to stop is a rare but vivid mark of honesty within excellence." He argued that the festival arose as a response to the conditions of a bruised and bloodied post-war Europe. Its aim was to bring harmony and healing. Fifty years later strife was again breaking out in Europe, raising the question of whether the festival had realised its aims. "The proud and joyous image of an Edinburgh in Europe, of the festival as the



George Steiner: questioned whether festival should end

enactment of a European communion, looked to an eclipse of tribalism... this foresight of hope had, after Europe's near self-slaughter, every rational legitimacy. At signal points, it has not been realised." Mr Steiner, professor of comparative literature at Cambridge, was commis-

sioned to write the address by the University of Edinburgh. He pointed to the decline of other festivals, citing the Cannes Film Festival, a "beached and weary whale". Such festivals continued, he said, because they were bolstered by economic interests and had lost sight of their original artistic aims. The spirit of Edinburgh would be betrayed by the continuation of the festival merely for commercial reasons. It is unlikely his musings will be acted on literally. Their implications are that the festival should end and his inaugural address would be the first and last University of Edinburgh Festival Lecture. But the festival gives the local economy such a boost that it will surely weather the assault. Brian McMaster, festival director, said: "I would happily resign if I believed the festival had fulfilled its mission, or closed itself off. Until the answer is yes, I'll stay and help it grow." **Edinburgh Festival, G2, page 10**

Shock troupe plays it straight in the funny zone

Festival review

Robert Yates

Towering Inferno Assembly Rooms, Edinburgh **Y**OU can't move in the Assembly Rooms for wisecracks, for stand-up comedians and sketch shows, for endless japes and joshers, and enough badinage to start a small war. At times, you think you've landed in a sit-com, and you're the only straight man in sight. In this environment the arrival of multi-media performers Towering Inferno with Kaddish, a bewitching performance built on a "dream history of the holocaust", no less, was bound to appear odd. It's no criticism to say that there are no laughs to be had. Performers who've spent the day ducking double entendres will get a shock if they try it out

by chance. Still, many on the opening night appreciated the shock, appearing moved at the end. Others just moved, Towering Inferno achieving quite a high walk-out figure. Perhaps the promoters should issue a disclaimer: "Kaddish may be brilliant, but it's hardly entertainment." Towering Inferno are a couple of Jewish-English musicians, Richard Wolfson and Andy Saxon, accompanied by musical and film-making colleagues. They assemble a show of sound and image, with film projected on to three large screens above and either side of the stage. The piece takes its name from the Jewish prayer for the dead, and the film centres on the Holocaust. Some of the footage - material impounded by the East Germans after the war and released only recently - is worth the admission alone, carrying the seductive power of a Riefenstahl documentary. Towering Inferno themselves might tell you this is apt since Kaddish is about how

horror gets bound up in beauty. Or they might not, because what's impressive about Towering Inferno is that they don't bow down to art-speak, or standard performance high jinks. They prefer to be direct. Although some of the music is difficult to take in long stretches, other parts produce heavy metal straight enough for Beavis and Suththead. They are most effective, however, when they play it soft, when the voice of Susan Deyhim - a sometime collaborator with Jah Wobble - works as a balm. As well as being musically direct, Towering Inferno are determined to use the most vivid publicity ruses. Yesterday afternoon they followed Saturday night's opening performance by setting alight three monumental symbols - two stars of David and a swastika. In a development which even the smart Towering Inferno boys had not planned, the swastika fell to the ground, pulled down by its own weight, and left the two stars of David burning away.

THE ESPIO 160 QUATTRO. THE WORLD'S LONG

You don't need luck, you

Richard Yates meets Richard and Elizabeth Capwell, whose daughter Susan Deyhim is of Towering Inferno. Newbury agent Living an B

Declassified documents confirm accidents to US and British bombs caused radiation leaks in southern England

MoD facing humiliation over nuclear accident lies



"I think she knew she was going to die. She handed back her back door key and told us to cancel her subscriptions. Every day she would ask 'Will I die tonight?'"

"I would get angry, if we knew there was a cover-up. I feel a little cynical because there seems to be a tradition among governments not to tell people things that are of vital importance to them."

Ruaridh Nicoll meets Richard and Elizabeth Capewell, whose daughter Ann died of leukaemia in Newbury aged 16



Elizabeth and Richard Capewell, whose daughter Ann (above left) died of leukaemia

PHOTOGRAPH: GRAHAM TURNER



A Vickers Valiant bomber... nuclear weapon fell out

THE Ministry of Defence last night faced the prospect of a humiliating retreat from its 44-year insistence that there has never been a nuclear weapons accident in Britain, after overwhelming evidence emerged of British and American atom bomb damage and radiation in southern England in the 1960s and 1960s.

report of the Wittering accident - recently declassified - the Government's wall of silence started to crumble. The MoD spokesman said: "This is not something that we can respond to in detail over the weekend."

scientists said the high concentrations of uranium around Greenham Common could only have been caused by damage to a nuclear weapon, and suggested a link with an aircraft fire at Greenham in February 1958. US authorities always denied the aircraft carried an atomic bomb.

"On returning to base at the close of Exercise 'Mayflight', a 2,000lb Nuclear Weapon was accidentally jettisoned from the bomb bay of EP210. Severe damage resulted to the weapon upon hitting the hard standing."

"There has never been an accident involving damage to, or release of radioactivity from, a nuclear weapon in the UK."

Declassified RAF operations record book entry, May 1959

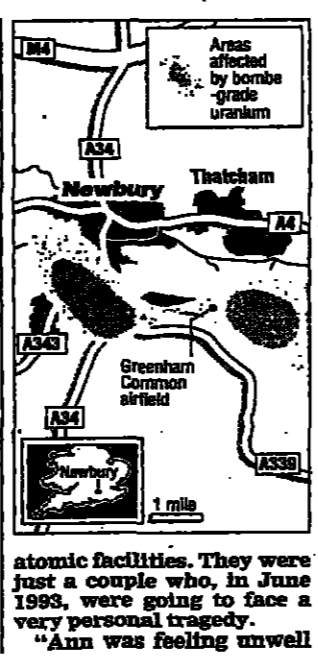
Ministry of Defence statement yesterday

Table with 2 columns: Accidents, Details. Row 1: On returning to base at the close of Exercise 'Mayflight', a 2,000lb Nuclear Weapon was accidentally jettisoned from the bomb bay of EP210. Severe damage resulted to the weapon upon hitting the hard standing.

Living and dying in fear of nuclear clouds and cover-ups

BEHIND marigold borders and stocks, Elizabeth and Richard Capewell live their Berkshire idyll. Their detached house sits in pretty Old Newbury Road out of sight of the crumbling bunkers of Greenham Common.

clear accidents that had occurred in Britain which had been kept from the public. For a few weeks they have known about a fire at Greenham Common in which a nuclear bomb was burnt and which may have covered the area in radioactive dust. Connections are being made. Another parent whose daughter suffered from leukaemia, Rodrick Bowrage, has set up the Newbury Leukaemia Study Group.



so she went to the doctor, who said she had a virus," said Elizabeth. "I thought she had glandular fever and she was worried so we insisted on a blood test."

her second bout of chemotherapy. "She was frightened but she was a girl of few words," said Elizabeth. "She rarely complained. She was getting no emotional help except what we could provide, but we were exhausted as well. For four or five weeks we were sleeping on the floor by her bed. I would try to help but I was so exhausted I would fall asleep."

worried. Elizabeth rushed back and found Ann too drugged to talk. "The afternoon she was coming out of it but then she started screaming about the pain in her head." She was haemorrhaging. "Then she said her last words to you," Elizabeth said to Richard. "Daddy, Daddy. On the day she was buried her GCSE results came in."

On Greenham Common, the bunkers that housed the nuclear weapons looked shabby, the grass that covered the runway areas was covered by hay bales. The Capewells had tried to get on with their lives, careful not to become too obsessed with what had killed their daughter. But seven months later they received a shock. "Alice Bowrage had got leukaemia," said Elizabeth. She was a friend of Ann's who lived 50 yards away. She is still alive after four rounds of chemotherapy.

The local council has decided to have a detailed study into radiation levels around the former site. But the Capewells are concerned the radiation will become the focus and not the leukaemia that is killing people. "It's easy to forget there are real people here," said Richard. "But the fact that the Government knew about the spills and did nothing has yet to be proven. Richard and Elizabeth will wait until proof comes in to get really angry. 'We want to know, if it wasn't caused by a government cover-up what was it caused by,' said Richard. 'I would get angry later, if we knew there was a cover-up. I feel a little cynical because there seems to be a tradition among governments not to tell people things of vital importance to them. 'We have other children. Are we still in danger?'"

New tax blow to Labour

Rebecca Smithers Political Correspondent TONY Blair's attempts to bury his party's differences behind a united front were blown apart again yesterday by a fresh row over Labour's tax plans.

believes it lost the 1992 election because of voters' fears about their tax plans, and is keeping them under wraps until close to the election. But Mr Shore said tax was at the heart of politics. "To abandon that on the grounds that there is such a resistance to any possible increase in taxation that you can't even mention it, and therefore you have to limit public expenditure even when there are deprived areas... is to accept defeat before the battle."

Sunday newspapers depicting Mr Blair with demonic eyes. A former senior Labour aide, Leo McKinstry, said on the BBC's Breakfast With Frost programme yesterday that Ms Shore's views were supported by rank and file members. He claimed there were "major holes" in Labour policy. The party's spokesman, Peter Mandelson, dismissed Mr McKinstry's comments, claiming he left the party a long time ago. On Mr Shore's remarks, he said: "Tony Blair has always described Labour as being committed to creating chances and opportunities for people to get on and for government action to be taken to make that possible."

Zimbabwe's Mugabe makes an honest woman of former secretary

David Beresford, Southern Africa Correspondent ROBERT Mugabe is allowing his long-standing mistress out of the sensitive presidential shadows, so as to marry her.

be blessed by the Catholic Church with several African heads of state in attendance - includes 6,000 guests. The taciturn president announced his plans at the weekend to do the right thing, in grand fashion, by the marriage of his two children, aged 9 and 7.

ary, Grace Marufu, aged 31, with Mozambique's President Joaquim Chissano acting as best man. Presidents Nelson Mandela of South Africa, Sir Ketumile Masire of Botswana and Sam Nujoma of Namibia are expected to be among the guests of honour.

first wife, Sally, died of kidney disease in 1992. In her first interview, Ms Marufu said it President Mugabe was bestowing on her "the greatest honour". This was all a far cry from the row that erupted last year when a non-government newspaper was officially pilloried for reporting that the two had married secretly.

Patsy Kensit went onstage to show off her engagement ring. This single cheesy gesture, small in itself, may become the defining moment of a once great band's descent into hopeless banality... I don't know why it happens but there's something about that woman which neutralises hip. Charlotte Raven on Liam Gallagher's fiancée

Party tell you something... I would get angry, if we knew there was a cover-up. I feel a little cynical because there seems to be a tradition among governments not to tell people things that are of vital importance to them.

Four others have died in the vicinity over the past few weeks and locals say nearby raves have been creating serious safety problems

Car plunge claims five young lives

Peter Hetherington

ROAD ACCIDENT investigators were last night trying to pinpoint the causes of a crash which claimed the lives of five youths in Lincolnshire early yesterday.

The youths, aged 14 to 18, were killed when their Montego saloon car plunged off a private road into a water-filled dike and overturned at the Coral Beach caravan park, Ingoldmills.

While trapped in only four feet of water, one 19-year-old was able to roll down a window and clamber to safety, but his friends could not escape.

A director of the caravan park said last night that over the past three weeks four other people had died in the area, three in a late-night accident and another youth after attending a rave.

The police arrived within four minutes at the scene, leapt into the water and pulled two youths clear. Firemen and ambulancemen

dragged the remaining youths from the car.

But long attempts to resuscitate the boys, in one case lasting three hours, were unsuccessful.

The police said the victims were from Leicester and staying with friends at a caravan park close by. Their identities will be divulged today after relatives have been informed.

A senior fire officer, Gary Millson, from Skegness, said: "The car had clearly slipped over as it went into the water. You could only see the back wings sticking up. The lad who escaped did not seem too badly hurt and he is lucky to be alive."

Pensioner Ivy Savage, whose caravan overlooks the scene, said she had been woken by a loud bang at around 4.40am. "I looked out and I could see a car on the road with four lads standing by it looking at the water."

"They were shouting 'get them out, get them out'. I saw one lad get out from the water on his own - I saw him climbing up the banking. He was in a

mess. I think he thought he could go back in and save them but he couldn't."

"The lads were crying their eyes out - they were only about 16 - and all they could say was one of them was just 14. He was one of the ones that died."

Mrs Savage, from Mansfield Woodhouse, Nottinghamshire, said the caravan site was plagued by teenagers speeding in cars after leaving raves at the nearby Fantasy Island.

Last night road accident investigators were examining skid marks in an attempt to determine the car's speed.

Isabelle Belton, a director of the Coral Beach park, said later: "We have had serious problems with youths coming on to the site on a Saturday night when they have been to raves."

Lincolnshire Police spokesman Tony Diggins said: "It is a terrible tragedy and we are trying to find out how it happened. There will be a full coroner's investigation although it was on a private road, not a public road."



The Montego lies upside down after plunging into a dike at a caravan park in Lincolnshire trapping five youngsters

PHOTOGRAPH ROSS PARRY

Centenary of first car death marked

Victims' charity calls for action as crashes kill 10 people a day, reports **Stuart Millar**

AFTER Bridget Driscoll, a housewife from Croydon, south London, became the world's first fatal car accident victim 100 years ago this week, the coroner at her inquest said: "This must never happen again."

A century and more than 500,000 road deaths later, bereaved relatives and injured victims will this week mark the centenary with a rally at the spot in Crystal Palace, south London, where Mrs Driscoll died.

Dressed in black and carrying photographs of lost loved ones, they will demand urgent action to curb crashes, in which 10 people die and 850 are injured daily on British roads.

Descendants of Mrs Driscoll, aged 44, will attend the rally. She was going to a folk-dancing display at Crystal Palace on August 17, 1896, with her sister and a friend when she was hit. Witnesses described the car as "coming at a great rate - as fast as a bicycle".

The two right wheels of the car, on a demonstration ride for the Anglo-French Motor Car Company, passed over her body. She died two minutes later.

Her death happened months after the rule compelling a man with a red flag to walk before motor vehicles was abolished.

Later this month, Coventry will host a cavalcade of cars built in the city to

mark the centenary of the British motor industry.

But RoadPeace, a charity for road traffic victims organising this week's commemoration, said yesterday that celebrating "100 years of carnage" would be more appropriate.

"Half a million have been killed and 30 million injured on Britain's roads," said Brigitte Chaudhri, "Road danger is now the single biggest threat to children - one in 15 will be killed or injured on the roads by the age of 15."

Ms Chaudhri, who helped set up RoadPeace after her son was killed by a van-driver who jumped a red light, rejected claims that improved driving standards had led to an all-time low in road deaths. "The standards of driving have not contributed. It has more to do with vulnerable groups being too frightened to go near the roads."

The organisation is demanding that deaths are investigated more rigorously and an end to the practice of charging motorists involved in a fatal crash with minor traffic offences.

"A hundred years on, not a penny of government money is spent on victims. In every other form of transport death, there are major investigations. With road deaths, the only concern is to get the road cleared as quickly as possible."

Zoe Stow, from Oxfordshire, who lost her son Alex, aged 15, last year when he stepped off a bus and was hit by a car on an unlit country road, said: "The attitude is a number of road deaths each year is the price we pay for mobility. That is offensive."

Trains still face delays on Watford crash line

Rebecca Smithers

RAILTRACK engineers who have been working round the clock at the scene of last Thursday's fatal train crash near Watford Junction are hoping to restore "virtually a full service" on the West Coast main line today.

But a spokeswoman for Railtrack's Midlands zone warned that passengers will still face delays as both West Coast InterCity and local North London lines trains will face speed restrictions in the accident area.

One woman was killed and 75 people injured in the collision, which took place half a mile south of Watford Junction on Thursday evening. Altogether 380 people were on the packed 17.04 commuter train from Busson to Milton Keynes when it struck an empty passenger train.

Three separate inquiries are being carried out, by Railtrack, the Health & Safety Executive and the British Transport Police.

Meanwhile, an investigation was launched yesterday after a train carrying 65 passengers collided with a tractor on a farm crossing on Saturday night. Passengers on the Birmingham to Aberystwyth train and the tractor driver escaped injury. A British Transport Police spokesman said the train struck the front of the tractor. "Another few seconds and we could have been dealing with a very serious incident."

Police pursue French link in Plymouth sex murder

Geoffrey Gibbs

DETECTIVES investigating the rape and murder of a Plymouth teenager have asked to study DNA samples from the killer of Caroline Dickinson, who died on a school holiday in France.

Nicola Parsons, an 18-year-old care assistant, was strangled in a former nursery school in the Stoke area of the city a month ago, nine days before Caroline, aged 13, was murdered in Briannay.

Police in Plymouth have taken DNA samples from more than 1,000 men and are considering the mass screening of all males.

They have now asked to be allowed to study evidence gathered at the youth hostel in Pleine Fougères where Caroline shared a dormitory with four friends from Launceston college, Cornwall.

The search for her murderer was re-opened last week after French police released Patrice Pede, a 39-year-old valet who had earlier confessed to the crime during interrogation. DNA evidence showed he could not have committed the rape.

French investigators have now told the Foreign Office that they wish to re-interview members of the school party.

Plymouth detectives say the DNA request was a routine part of their inquiries. "This is a port town with a ferry link to France. You can't ignore that sort of thing," said one officer yesterday.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL ROYAL MAIL CUSTOMERS.

PLANNED NATIONAL STRIKE BY THE COMMUNICATION WORKERS UNION

Royal Mail regret to inform you that the CWU are continuing with strike action following the rejection of an agreement reached between their negotiators and Royal Mail. The union's executive has also refused to allow its members to vote on the deal.

The union has called further strikes, and the first two will be on **Wednesday August 14th and Thursday August 22nd** - each for 24 hours.

- Delivery and collection of letters will vary depending on local circumstances.
- Business customers should ring their normal Royal Mail contact for details.
- Following the strikes, deliveries and collections will resume on **Thursday August 15th and on Friday August 23rd.**

Parcelforce services are unaffected.
Post Offices will remain open as normal.

For up to date information, please call us on the following

Customer Information Line:

0345 740 740

We will be doing all we can to keep disruption to a minimum, using available resources for both collections from business customers and to ensure pillar boxes are emptied. We apologise in advance for the inconvenience these strikes will cause and will ensure that your letter services return to normal as soon as possible.



Woman

M

Waldegrave

Entertainments & Travel

Deal

Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom of the page.

Multiple births risk complications, Luisa Dillner writes; and (below, right) Vivek Chaudhary charts lives of the parents



The Walton sextuplets, who were born in 1984 after infertility treatment. In recent times there has been no higher number of successful births: Susan Walton gave birth to four boys and three girls in 1987, but all died PHOTOGRAPH: JOHN STILLMELL

Woman could die bearing octuplets

MANDY Allwood could be risking her life if she continues to carry eight fetuses in her pregnancy. Kypros Nicolaidis, her obstetrician at King's College hospital, London, has warned her that not only is it unlikely any of the octuplets will survive but also that multiple births increase the risks of many of the complications of pregnancy.

never been successful. In Britain Susan Walton gave birth to four boys and three girls in 1987 after in-vitro fertilisation. All died within days. In recent times, the highest number of successful births has been six. Jan and Graham Walton had sextuplet daughters in 1984 after infertility treatment. In 1993 Jean

vice. Two of the fetuses are thought to be twins. Women who undergo such treatment are normally monitored by ultrasound scans to ensure that super-ovulation does not occur. For pregnancies created outside the body and implanted at embryo stage, potential foetuses are restricted by law to three. Usually only one or two successfully implant. Doctors often recommend selective abortion in the case of triplets because the risk of premature delivery is so high.

caesarian section involving eight babies would be a nightmare," Dr Whittaker said. Ms Allwood would be highly likely to bleed heavily after the birth. Much of the surface of her womb would be covered by placenta, leaving lots of potentially raw areas to bleed once the afterbirth was removed. Since the womb



Mandy Allwood and her partner, Paul Hudson

Pregnancy creates controversy after period of personal trauma for 'independent' minded mother

MANDY Allwood, described by friends and family as "astute and extremely ambitious", first met her partner, Paul Hudson, in March 1992. She was still with her husband, Simon Pugh, whom she married in July 1986, aged 21, and had a son named Charles, when she started a relationship with Mr Hudson.

pendent lives. Mr Hudson spends several nights a week with Maria Edwards, the mother of his two children. "I've always been my own man and needed my own space," he told the News of the World. For Ms Allwood, news of her pregnancy ends a period of personal turmoil in which she has had a miscarriage and an abortion. She has also had to come to terms with the breakdown of her marriage and her older brother's death.

Waldegrave faces new sleaze attack

Alleged smears against Wilson return to haunt Conservatives. Rebecca Smithers and Seumas Milne. THE Tories look set to become embroiled in a new pre-election sleaze row this week when the cabinet minister William Waldegrave faces allegations that he played a key role in the "dirty tricks" campaign against the Labour prime minister Harold Wilson in the 1970s.

official, not now in Mrs Thatcher's entourage, who told me that the current thinking was that any means of discouraging Wilson from going to the country in June should be brought into play. "While the leadership still disliked the whole idea of using personal degradation, these were desperate times." In the Channel 4 Secret History documentary, to be screened on Thursday, Mr Pincher names Mr Waldegrave — who was then Mr Heath's chief of staff — as the intermediary.

Patrick Donovan City Editor. A RIGHTWING think tank that claims to represent a group of unnamed airlines and City banks has threatened legal action against a proposal by BAA, the airport operator, to build a fifth terminal at Heathrow airport at a cost of £1.3 billion.

Attack on BAA monopoly

charges by its regulator, the Civil Aviation Authority. Controversy about BAA's near-monopoly has been growing since last year, when it announced a 10 per cent jump in profits to £118 million. Shareholders have seen an average annual return of nearly 17 per cent since BAA — formerly known as the British Airports Authority — was privatised in 1987.

he had evidence that the campaign had come under surveillance but declined to go into detail. BAA yesterday denied the allegation, insisting the lobby group's claims of anti-competitive behaviour were "complete nonsense". Heathrow airport insisted that BAA was the only company that could finance the huge new terminal. A spokesman warned that otherwise London would lose business as an international "hub" to European rivals.

Entertainments & Travel

A large grid of theatre listings for various venues including Theatre London, Apollo Theatre, and West Country. Each listing includes the name of the production, the venue, and contact information. The listings are organized by venue and include details such as showtimes and ticket prices.

Short honeymoon for Kemp as Republicans meet to bless marriage of convenience



My way... Bob Dole (right) makes a point to his newly announced running mate Jack Kemp in the presidential contender's home town, Russell, Kansas

An oddly matched pair of unbelievers

Martin Walker in San Diego

THE honeymoon for Jack Kemp as Bob Dole's running mate will quickly mutate into concern about "the Odd Couple" when Republicans remember why they have hitherto rejected him as a flamboyant, garrulous and uncontrollable figure.

that those born in the United States should no longer have automatic citizenship. "If Jack Kemp can't... toe the party line on immigration, then I think he ought to step down," the governor of California, Pete Wilson, said yesterday, evidently still smarting from the campaign Mr Kemp launched against the proposed state anti-immigration measure.

natural a political home for black voters as the Democrats. A passionate free marketeer whose written message to this week's convention urges restoration of the gold standard, Mr Kemp is openly contemptuous of the anti-free-trade plank in the new Republican platform.

Mr Kemp, who has called himself "a bleeding-heart conservative", would be a marvellous orator if he could only stop talking. He has a relentlessly sunny disposition and an endearingly puppyish way of bounding with energy. His very presence is calculated to exhaust the morose and lethargic Mr Dole.

thing impossible to himself. Furious, and still athletic in late middle age after his brilliant career as a professional quarterback, Mr Kemp leapt over a chair or two. Mr Baker beat a hasty retreat. Mr Kemp chased him down the corridor towards the Roosevelt Room, and was about to embrace him warmly by the throat when they were separated by the diminutive Brent Scowcroft, the national security adviser.

"They have fought like cats and dogs in the past," agreed the former Republican education secretary, Bill Bennett, a close ally of Mr Kemp. "But this shows that yes, politically speaking, Bob Dole wants to win this."

Dole camp feigns unity

Martin Walker in San Diego

BOB DOLE, the Republican presidential hopeful, travelled to San Diego yesterday for today's launch of a party convention. An event that party organisers hope will be invigorated by Mr Dole's selection at the weekend of Jack Kemp, a former congressman and housing secretary, as his vice-presidential running mate.

ment of Mr Kemp as running mate. These results are not duplicated elsewhere. A Los Angeles Times poll, published yesterday, still puts Mr Clinton's lead at 20 points. Convention discipline has been stern, and Mr Wilson was told he could give a five-minute speech only if he talked about the tough Republican policies on immigration.

Ghost of former glory threatens to sink Perotistas' battleship

Perot is a victim of his own success, writes Jonathan Freedland in Long Beach



Ross Perot: captured one-fifth of the vote in 1992

THE fireworks struggled valiantly but were upstaged by the colour below. Red-white-and-blue T-shirts and hats, emblazoned with battle cries, demanded "Ross for Boss". A bomber jacket urged "Run Ross Run".

'92 T-shirt. "There's only one guy with a big enough brain who can figure our problems out and that's Ross Perot," she explained. "He's told us what to do."

gling to break double figures, and Americans have become irritated by his twangy, homespun wisdom. But the real problem was acknowledged by some yesterday. "The two [main] parties have taken a lot of our issues, and that's taken a lot of wind out of our thrust," said Leonard Surratt, a California volunteer.

With Perotism in the mainstream, there's less need for Mr Perot. Many of the Perotistas have gone back home to the Republicans or Democrats. The diehards that remain have a personal devotion to Mr Perot, leaving little room for Mr Lamm.

The governor of Massachusetts, William Weld, New York's governor, George Pataki, and California's governor, Pete Wilson — a former mayor of the host city of San Diego — have been bluntly excluded from the list of speakers in a startling act of political censorship by the Dole camp.

"I wanted to give a speech about a woman's right to choose [on abortion], and 'big ten' [a reference to the party as a broad church tolerant of different views], and the future of the party, and they didn't want it," Mr Weld said yesterday.

Gulf syndrome evidence mounts

Philip Stenson in Washington

VETERANS of the Gulf war are offering the first compelling evidence that United States troops were exposed to Iraqi chemical weapons, which they say have begun to ravage their bodies, after years of Pentagon denials.

The soldiers and former soldiers were all members of the US army's 37th Engineer Battalion. Unlike thousands of other US troops claiming to suffer from the ailments collectively described as "Gulf war syndrome", they can pinpoint the time and place that they believe they were exposed to chemical weapons: March 4 1991, when they blew up 33 Iraqi bunkers in the desert.

The Pentagon acknowledged this summer that one of the bunkers probably stored shells containing sarin, a deadly nerve agent, and mustard gas, a blistering agent that can burn flesh.

Views with 37 of the nearly 150 battalion members in the vicinity of the Kamistyah arsenal at the time of the explosion. 27 said they had suffered serious health problems since the war.

The movies — and the countless papers that feed off them — have of late taken Miss Austen, that gentle mistress of literary taste and virtue, and turned her into the Joe Esterhas of big frocks. Hampshire's most famous daughter is now famous in a way she could never have understood. Andrew O'Hagan on celebrity mags

G2 cover story

News in brief

Jakarta puts its loyalists on show

ABOUT 50,000 supporters of the Indonesian government, many in paramilitary uniforms, gathered in Jakarta yesterday to blame the Democratic People's Party for recent riots in the capital, and to thank the army for restoring peace and stability.

Hong Kong peace offering

CHINA appears to be offering an olive branch to Hong Kong democrats by hinting that they can join the committee of 400 which will select the person to lead the territory after it reverts to Chinese rule next year.

Peru frees the innocent

PERU has released 180 prisoners wrongly jailed on terrorism charges since the beginning of last year, President Alberto Fujimori said at the weekend. Mr Fujimori, who has admitted that "mistakes were made" in trying suspected guerrillas, promised to maintain "personal control" over a new government commission to examine the cases of prisoners claiming to be innocent.

Campsite toll reaches '83

THE official death toll from the deluge which wiped out a Spanish Pyrenean campsite last week rose to 83 yesterday as search teams continued to dredge a river and dam for more bodies.

Hussein seeks brotherly help

KING HUSSEIN of Jordan arrived in Jeddah yesterday for his first meeting with King Fahd of Saudi Arabia since they fell out over Jordan's apparent tilt towards Iraq during the 1990-91 Gulf crisis. Their agenda includes the Middle East peace process, tension in the Gulf following the bombings in Saudi Arabia, and friction between Iran and the United States.

Ethiopia halts incursion

ETHIOPIA said it had ended a two-day military offensive into neighbouring Somalia against Muslim fundamentalists it blames for violence in Ethiopia. The Addis Ababa government said it might take further action against what it called a "multi-national terrorist group" operating from Somalia.

Rabin assassin has fan club



INBAL Bucharis, a member of the Yigal Amir Fan Club, admires the pictures of Yitzhak Rabin's assassin that hang on her bedroom wall. She condemned the murder of the former Israeli prime minister but said she was charmed by Amir.

Catholics round on Pope

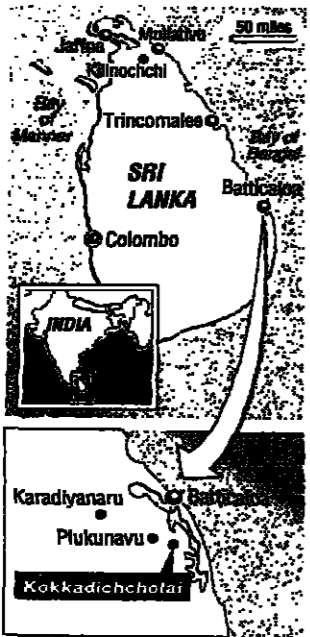
ROMAN Catholic churches in France have been beseged by hundreds of Catholics demanding that their baptisms be cancelled in protest at Pope John Paul II's visit next month, the newspaper Liberation reports.

Tigers

Turkey fosters Islamic ties

Pakistan seeks revenge on

Tigers claw back kingdom in east



Suzanne Goldenberg in Kokkadichcholai finds Sri Lanka's Tamil rebels striving to recreate their lost stronghold of Jaffna

THE drought-stricken paddy fields on the southern side of the lagoon near the town of Batticaloa mark the eastern-most reaches of the Tamil Tigers' domain. The ruins of three army camps are the only reminders that these lands, on paper at least, are part of Sri Lanka. Government soldiers, confined to bunkers at the far end of a rickety bridge, rarely venture here now. It is another world, with a set of rules and a rhythm all its own; it even has its own time zone.

The Tigers — driven out of their stronghold on the Jaffna peninsula, and locked in mortal combat for the last population centre they control in the north, Kilinochchi — are clinging to their eastern territories.

K. Thurai, the political leader for the east and the only Tiger cadre permitted to talk to outsiders, claims the guerrillas now control 80 per cent of Batticaloa district.

In part, the east is theirs by default. The government moved more than 1,000 troops out of the Batticaloa region for an offensive in the north, allowing the Tigers to return. Even in the relatively secure town of Batticaloa itself, local people say the streets belong to the rebels after dark.

However, in his office in Kokkadichcholai, the Tigers' local administrative headquarters, Thurai does not believe the rebels' control of the east is the government's gift. "They sent a lot of troops to Jaffna peninsula but they are also withdrawing because of our severe attacks," he said. "We feel they are withdrawing wherever we attack."

As for the fall of Jaffna, that was a "strategic retreat". Although a second disaster may be looming in the north, where the Tigers have been in a stand-off with government troops since last month, he is undaunted. "If they capture Kilinochchi, we won't stop our attacks. They will still fear us and they will lose a lot of lives."

For the villagers, most of whom live in desperate poverty and have never seen electricity, the change in masters makes little difference.

"We can't escape either side — the army or the boys. We can only save our children if they don't join up," said a nursery teacher. As other vil-

lagers drew near, she stopped herself from saying more.

Despite the Tigers' supremacy in the east, this hinterland of small villages bears little resemblance to the lost kingdom of Jaffna, where the Tiger dream of a homeland — Tamil Eelam — began. Nor does it resemble Beirut, the name the Tigers have given it.

For five years, the Tigers ran a virtual mini-state on the peninsula, performing all functions of government. Now they are trying to replicate that administration here.

Last week, the Tigers set up a police force. Krishna Kumar, formerly police chief in the now fallen peninsular town of Chavakacheri, sits at his desk in his blue uniform. On the porch, villagers wait for him to rule on domestic and property disputes.

The Tigers already collect taxes — a euphemism for the extortion which the villagers say has made their lives a misery — and hope to set up courts. They also refused to turn their clocks forward when Sri Lanka went on daylight saving in June.

The pairs of young men — one carrying an AK-47 — who speed down the dirt roads on red Chinese-made motorbikes looted from the departing government forces follow a strict code of honour. Tiger cadres

on Black Tiger suicide missions, are found in offices and at the roadside. One such painting adorns the building where Black Tigers are confined before their final mission.

Loudspeakers announce the latest deaths, including the times of funerals. Instead of watching films or listening to the radio, they gather for videos of the latest battle — a powerful recruitment tool among the young.

Thurai says the villagers are eager to see scenes from Mulattivu, the army base overrun by the Tigers last month in their most spectacular victory in 13 years of fighting.

"It was one of our big victories," he said. "But in war we accept winning and losing. We're taught to accept both so we don't feel either that deeply."

However, the scars of the defeat at Jaffna are indelible. Apart from the motorbike riders, few men of fighting age are visible in the Kokkadichcholai area — a sign that the Tigers are exhausting their sources of recruits.

A few miles away, a village work crew toils in the midday sun, building a roundabout where four dirt tracks meet.

Their overseer — who gives his nom de guerre, Hansan — lost his right hand during battles in the north last October. Aged 22, he has fought for the past seven years. Despite his injury, he says he will still serve the cause of a Tamil homeland.

"We are dedicated to the country and our movement," he said. "Why should we expect compensation? Losing my hand was nothing."

'We can't escape either side — the government army or the boys; we can only save our children if they don't join up'

Turkey fosters Islamic ties

Chris Nuttall in Ankara

SENIOR Turkish emissaries were in Iran and Iraq yesterday burnishing business and political relations with the two countries in a move that risks a rift with the United States.

Turkey's pro-Islamic prime minister, Necmettin Erbakan, will sign a \$13 billion natural gas deal in Tehran today, which Iran hails as a significant victory against recent US sanctions.

In staging the trip to Iran, his first important foreign visit, Mr Erbakan has put his desire to strengthen ties with Muslim countries before relations with the US, Turkey's closest ally.

The US president, Bill Clinton, approved a bill last Monday which would penalise companies investing more than \$40 million (\$27 million) a year in the oil and gas industries of Iran and Libya, citing the two countries' support for terrorism.

The bill's main sponsor, Senator Alfonse D'Amato, described Turkey's deal as "provocative" and a "direct challenge to our policy of economically isolating Iran."

The US state department said: "We have made it very clear to the Turkish government that Iran is a state that should be isolated — we will watch the development of this relationship very carefully."

Washington has been unnerved by Mr Erbakan's partial attempt to fulfil his election promise to realign the secular republic with the rest of the Muslim world. The US sees Turkey as Nato's frontline against Islamic fundamentalism and Russian influence in Central Asia.

Since coming to office in June, Mr Erbakan has reaffirmed traditional ties with the West. But he has now cho-



Rwandan refugees from camps in Burundi wait at a transit site in Butare, south of Kigali. Rwanda has closed the border, except to homeward-bound refugees, as part of the blockade of Burundi's new military rulers. PHOTOGRAPH BY CHRIS TOMLINSON

Gambling boss helped fund ANC

David Beresford in Johannesburg

AFURIOUS row within South Africa's government about "cash for favours" intensified at the weekend when President Nelson Mandela admitted that a gambling boss facing bribery charges had donated 2 million rand (\$285,000) to the ruling African National Congress.

A spokesman for the deputy president, Thabo Mbeki, said Mr Mandela had confirmed that "a contribution" to party funds had been received from the country's casino king, Sol Kerzner, before the 1994 general election.

But Mr Mbeki denied any attempt had been made to interfere in a criminal prosecution against Mr Kerzner in exchange for the donation.

The admission follows allegations by a sacked junior minister, Bantu Holomisa, that Mr Kerzner donated the funds to the ANC in an attempt to have the prosecution against him dropped. Mr Kerzner has admitted donating R2 million to the government of Transkei in 1989 to secure gambling rights.

Mr Holomisa, who subsequently took over leadership of Transkei, faces expulsion from the ANC at a disciplinary hearing on Wednesday. He has been charged with bringing the ANC into disrepute by accusing a cabinet minister, Stella Sigau, of taking a R50,000 cut of the original "bribe".

Mr Holomisa made the allegation during a hearing of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which is investigating political crimes of the apartheid era.

He was later sacked by Mr Mandela from his post as deputy minister of tourism and the environment. Protests by accountants had been kindled by his firing. Mr Holomisa had been fired for telling the truth drew an angry response from President Mandela, who said it was his prerogative to hire or fire members of his government.

Meanwhile, Mr Mbeki has ridiculed Mr Holomisa's suggestions that he also took money from Mr Kerzner for his 50th birthday party as part of the gambling chief's attempts to ingratiate himself with the ANC. "I honestly do not believe that any serious-minded person would think that I could be bought by a birthday party to the extent that I would intervene to corrupt the ends of justice," Mr Mbeki was quoted as saying at the weekend.

The denials come as parliament resumes work this week, with the ANC taking full responsibility for running the country. F. W. de Klerk's white-led National Party pulled out of the transitional coalition with the ANC at the end of June — three years early.

A claim by a Johannesburg taxi driver that three British accountants had been kidnapped by hijackers was exposed as a hoax at the weekend.

The driver, Peter Manyekane, confessed to police that he had concocted the story to cover up the fact that his employer's vehicle had been hijacked while he was using it without permission to run a private taxi service. Police said they had arrested three suspects in the hijacking. Mr Manyekane has been charged with obstructing justice.

Pakistan takes revenge on tribe

Phil Goodwin in Islamabad

PARAMILITARY forces in Pakistan yesterday began demolishing the homes of the relatives of five men accused of kidnapping and murdering a tax inspector in an area near the Khyber Pass.

The local governor used an emergency law on a selective punishment dating from the days of the British empire to set in motion the military operation. Five houses were destroyed and the authorities said the demolitions would continue today.

Officials were so worried by the possibility of trouble — most families in the tribal areas are armed — that yesterday's operation took seven hours as each house was searched for hundreds of paramilitaries. The forces were armed with rocket launchers, machine-guns and mortars, and backed by five armoured personnel carriers.

The families, who had been forewarned, pleaded with the authorities to halt the demolitions. But they were told to remove their belongings.

One man, Qadar Gul, said he was poor and the house was all he had. He added that it was not his fault that he was related to a suspect.

The assistant political agent for the area, Akbar Khan, said the operation would carry on today: a

UN sounds alarm at voter intimidation in Bosnia



Electoral patchwork

JULIAN BORGER in Split

THE United Nations special human rights investigator for former Yugoslavia added her voice at the weekend to a gathering chorus of complaints about intimidation during voter registration for next month's Bosnian elections.

Amid growing evidence that the process is being used to reinforce a three-way partition of the country, Elisabeth Rehn said: "We have a strong feeling from the complaints we have got that there has been harassment around this registration."

Human rights groups and the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) — which will oversee the elections on September 14 — have already expressed concern that the registration process is being rigged.

Serb leaders have been singled out for using it to help achieve ethnic segregation, but there are signs that Croat authorities are also trying to manipulate the vote to split Bosnia's already fractured Muslim-Croat federation.

Serb, Croat and Muslim communities are expected to back nationalist politicians. Where they vote will largely dictate Bosnia's ethnic map.

On several occasions recently, the OSCE has accused Bosnian Serb authorities and the Yugoslav government of pressing Serb refugees to register in their new constituencies rather than their pre-war homes. Thus they will vote in Republika Srpska — the Serb-run entity within Bosnia — and help reinforce its ethnic purity.

Most Muslim refugees, in contrast, have asked for absentee ballots so they can cast their votes in their pre-war constituencies which are now in Republika Srpska. This is in line with the Bosnian government's policy of maintaining Bosnia-Herzegovina as a unified, multi-ethnic state.

The OSCE says it is too early to determine whether Sarajevo authorities are using pressure to achieve that.

Ed Van Thijn, the OSCE's election monitoring co-ordinator, said last week that Croatia was preventing international observers from visiting refugee centres where displaced Bosnian Croats are being registered.

But he said there was evidence that they were being obliged to vote in Croat majority areas of Herzegovina rather than in the Croat pockets spread across Bosnia. Officials of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), said Croats are being encouraged to move from these enclaves to Croatia and the illegal separatist state within Herzegovina, Herzeg-Bosna.

Recently, 1,100 Croats have left the Kiseljak pocket 10 miles west of Sarajevo and headed for southern Bosnia and formerly Serb-held areas of Croatia.

"The aim is pretty clear: to clean up the ethnic map and prepare the way for secession from the federation," a UNHCR official said.

There is also evidence that

Croat leaders are manipulating registration to block Muslim political influence within Herzeg-Bosna. For example, 6,000 Croat refugees have registered to vote in the town of Spaljak — three times the number of Croats who left during the war. Spaljak had a Muslim majority in 1991.

"It's part of the whole game of the division of territories all over the country and of people who are living there," Mr Van Thijn said.

"It's very sinister. Displaced persons... are moved around against their will in order to fulfil all sorts of political aims. I think it's a serious violation of human rights."

Haris Silajdzic, a Muslim opposition candidate and former Bosnian prime minister, has threatened to boycott the poll because of gerrymandering.

Ms Rehn said it might be possible for registration to be repeated in some cases, to allow voters a free choice on where to cast their ballot, but the OSCE has not said whether this will be feasible with only four weeks to go until the elections.

Zeljka Djindjic, page 9

A deadly fall-out

The MoD must come clean

SERIOUS ALLEGATIONS about nuclear accidents on British soil in the 1950s have once again been brushed aside by the Ministry of Defence...

Two areas of immense concern are raised by these reports and the evocative, tight-lipped response to them in Whitehall. The first is a straight-forward matter of public health...

PERHAPS the task force proposed by Labour's Henry McLeish, MP, to investigate national insurance number fraud (August 10) could also look into why 5,000 records of young people approaching their 16th birthdays went missing last year...

Only a full disclosure of the facts can allay public concern. This would require release of all official papers concerned with the alleged 1957 accident. This is supposed to have resulted when a jet-tisoned wing-tip tank from one B-47 fell behind another, parked on the ground...

The second issue arising from this affair concerns the claim of governments to lie when matters of national defence — as they choose to define them — are deemed to be at stake...

Asked to consider the genetic effects of nuclear radiation on the British servicemen at the Australian nuclear tests, Prime Minister Anthony Eden commented in a memo dated November 16, 1955, "A pity, but we cannot help it..."

Secrecy aside, was it ever conceivable that British ministers would rock the new strategic partnership and its coveted special relationship (so recently battered by the Suez War) for the sake of a nuclear "footprint" in Berkshire? We may presume that the only nuclear accident which would not have been covered-up would be one too large for even the most determined denial operation to conceal successfully...



Letters to the Editor

Three slips to stop

JACK Scarisbrick (Life, August 10) says that when it comes to sex and contraception, "The girl has to get kitted out but the boy won't." He unwittingly identifies a worrisome cause...

PERHAPS the task force proposed by Labour's Henry McLeish, MP, to investigate national insurance number fraud (August 10) could also look into why 5,000 records of young people approaching their 16th birthdays went missing last year...

Why were there no back-up files for such vital information. And, if it happened once, just how secure are the DSS computer systems? (C) David Lepper, Chair, Economic Development, Brighton Council, 330 Ditchling Road, Brighton BN1 6JG.

THAT BT is to target the phones of prostitutes who advertise in call boxes (August 6) brings hope that the company will also target a dubious, but legal, practice which creates a nuisance for a majority of the population. Can BT please threaten to cut off companies that make junk phone calls? These are far more intrusive than junk mail and existing methods of stopping them, as recommended by Ofel, do not work...

MUTHAS and rappers everywhere may be interested to hear of such a distinctly American-style place name in that hotbed of hood violence, mainland Orkney. A close look at the Ordnance Survey map shows the location of Tongue of Gaungsta. (Dr) Allison Sheridan, 11 Jessfield Terrace, Edinburgh.

Train safety off the rails

YOUR report (Watford crash belies safety record, August 10) is wrong in saying that the train crash last Thursday was "the first railway accident involving a passenger fatality for nearly two years." Along with 700 other passengers, I was on the Inter-city 125 which burst into flames as it approached Maidenhead on its way out of London on December 8 last year...

ALTHOUGH we cannot yet know the cause of the Watford train crash, concern clearly arises from the context in which it has taken place. For example, we have had the near Clapham-type disaster at Anichengray in Scotland on May 20, the tanker crash in Staffordshire, the near accident last Sunday week, which you reported on August 8 with the associated tale of unqualified track workers, a train-brake failure north of Watford on July 10, and the known poor condition of the track out of Euston onto the West Coast Line with its severe problems over signalling...

of people you can pack onto a train. "Sell the tickets and pile 'em high" seems to be the strategy. I hope very much that the inquiries into the Watford accident will consider whether or not the train was overcrowded and whether the time has now come to ban standing on trains. It is possible to do this before we have a rail equivalent of the Hillsborough disaster. (Prof) Robin Hableton, Associate Dean, Faculty of the Built Environment, University of the West of England, Coldharbour Lane, Bristol BS16 1QY.

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The spectre of those C1 voters returns to haunt us

MARTIN Kettle writes (August 7) that C1 white-collar workers "have switched to the Conservatives in spectacular numbers" in "a very large swing of 5 per cent." These claims are flawed. Firstly, you treat as reality the pollsters' methodological fiction that the surveys measure how the electorate is changing its voting intentions. Comparing a poll of 1,200 voters at time T1 with another 1,200 voters at time T2 is not necessarily measuring a change in intentions. No matter how well weighted, comparison of two sample surveys is unlikely to measure actual changes in views, at least not of the magnitude of a few percentage points.

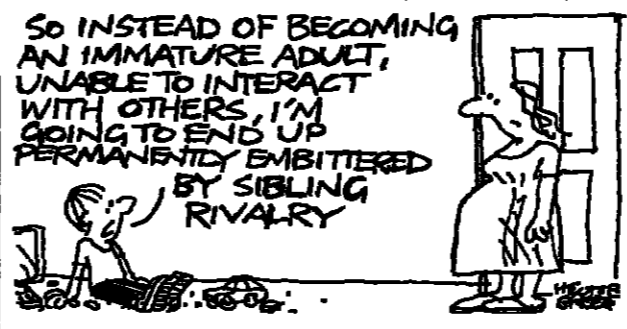
For all we know, the individuals in this latest sample may have had the same preferences last month, or may even have been more disposed to vote Conservative then. The second flaw is that the figures actually show that at least 4 per cent of the Tories' apparent 7 per cent increase since July is composed of those who were "Don't know" and supporters of other parties, eg Lib-Dems, in the previous sample. So, even if it is assumed that there has been a change in intentions, only a 3 per cent reduction in Labour support can be

claimed. Sampling error could account for much of this. Before the C1s get typecast as the cavalry coming to rescue the Tories we should remember that white-collar workers have suffered disproportionately from changes in technology, employment security, work organisation and salary structures. The more important question for Labour is whether C1 voters see the party as likely to ameliorate their situation. Bryn Jones, School of Social Sciences, University of Bath, Bath, BA3 7AY.

LAST Wednesday, you carried an ICM poll which said that Labour's lead had fallen from 15 per cent to 12 per cent. One reason given was that the New Labour/New Danger campaign was having some effect. Last Friday, the Daily Telegraph's Gallup poll showed Labour's lead at 5 per cent greater than a month ago and proclaimed that the New Danger campaign had flopped. So what do you do? Tack one paragraph on the poll on the end of another story and pick the worst figure you can find. David R Hill, Chief Media Spokesperson, The Labour Party, 150 Watworth Road, London SE17 1JT.

Khan's problem

ANNA Coates (Only You, August 8) is right to confound the stereotype that only children are spoilt and lonely — they aren't. But she is on less firm ground in saying that having brothers and sisters is not all it's cracked up to be. Squabbling may seem hard, but it's clear from the more than 60 only children we interviewed for our book, Only Child, as well as from the many who have written to us since, that it is precisely this squabbling and competing for attention which provides training in emotional interaction and skills. Many only children realise in adulthood that they lack these and have to make up for them. "Social maturity and emotional maturity" was how we simplified the only-child condition and, interestingly, none of our interviewees said they'd choose to have an only child themselves. Oh — and Hilder wasn't an only child, though Stalin and Genghis Khan were. David Emerson and Jill Fitzkeathley, 15a Gordon Road, London SE7 7RN.



Mr Gummer in a storm over troubled waters

MILLIONS of people go to the Lake District to appreciate the natural beauty of the lakes and mountains. I would guess that few go to enjoy the noise, smell and physical presence of speedboats. The overruling of the public inquiry by the Environment Secretary (Angry backlash over refusal of lake speed limit, August 8) flies in the face of all reasonable assumptions on how the Lake District should be managed. It shows how little the Government really cares for the environment and for the leisure interests of the general population. If it was deemed essential to hold power-boat races, there is no reason why restrictions could not be imposed, as is done on roads on the Isle of Man for the TT races. But it must be asked whether, in this crowded isle and with so many competing leisure interests, speedboats on inland waters are acceptable. Noel C Taylor, The Horner's Nest, North Hill, Little Baddow, Chelmsford, Essex CM3 4TB.

essential to hold power-boat races, there is no reason why restrictions could not be imposed, as is done on roads on the Isle of Man for the TT races. But it must be asked whether, in this crowded isle and with so many competing leisure interests, speedboats on inland waters are acceptable. Noel C Taylor, The Horner's Nest, North Hill, Little Baddow, Chelmsford, Essex CM3 4TB.

them to before 11am and after 5pm, so that the greater part of each day would be peaceful on the lake and hills. J M Milner, 83 Gough Way, Cambridge CB3 9LN. If this decision is made by the Secretary of State for the Environment, what chance for the environment? Jennifer Jewell, Princess Road, Windermere, Cumbria. We regret we cannot acknowledge receipt of letters. We may edit them: shorter ones are more likely to appear.

A Country Diary

TEMPLE EWELL, KENT: The world of Britain's blue butterflies can truly seem a sordid and even brutal place. Take, for example, a species confined to southern England's chalk grasslands, the Adonis Blue, which can sometimes be found clustered together like so many loose, mallow petals on top of a horse turf, whose juices they are especially partial. Even worse, as Large Blue, the family's most beautiful and rarest member, now known at only a few secret locations in the West Country, has a massive symbiosis with ants. In order to enjoy the sweet "milk" which the butterfly larvae exude, the ants carry them off to their nest, all the better to protect them. In fact, so deep is the ants' craving for this elixir that they allow the caterpillars to fatten up on a few ant-grubs whenever hunger dictates. Imagine its human equivalent: the Devon farmer so addicted to Daisy's luscious cream that he feeds his own children to satisfy his unbovone appetite for flesh. Fortunately, the Chalkhill

Blue has a far more wholesome relationship with ants, making only a simple exchange of body fluids in return for their protection. Not that these subterranean dealings were any concern of ours at this Kent Wildlife Trust reserve just north of Dover. On a hot sunny August afternoon, the Chalkhill Blues were present in extraordinary abundance. As our gaze travelled outwards across the rippling horizon of grasses, knapweed, scabious and reatherbrow, we computed their numbers firstly in tens, then hundreds and finally thousands. Blues were everywhere, hurtling off in crazy courtship flights or clotted together on the pink cushions of flowering majoram, their wings opening and closing like so many pale, wrinking eyes. It was a magical, elemental world of butterflies and flowers, which has probably renewed itself each summer at this site ever since the neolithic axes first rang out to unravel the feminine contour of its naked slopes. MARK COCKER

How Barbara Cartland sang West Side Story

Endpiece

Roy Hattersley

READ on with respect. For there follows the words of a man who has sung in public for Stephen Sondheim. It was not very public and I performed with great reluctance, and only after I had been subject to persuasion that sounded like coercion. But I did once amuse — I will not suggest entertain — the authentic genius of the modern musical stage. As they used to say in preparation for the big numbers in pre-war operettas, listen and I will tell you all about it. Sondheim and I were sitting in the agreeable drawing room-cum-foyer of the Savoy Hotel, and I had just asked him why he was so often critical of Lorenz Hart, the man who had first written the words to go with Richard Rod-

gers' music. "Do you", he responded, "know Take Him?" Of course I knew Take Him, the Pal Joey love-song which is always described in programme notes as "bitter-sweet". I smiled, contentedly and said, "Take Him. I won't put a price on him. Take him. He's yours." The master was not satisfied. "What", he asked, "about movie executives?" It was not a request for my opinion on a profession about which, happily, I know nothing. I was being challenged to reveal a greater knowledge of Take Him than the first line. My response was magnificent. Leaning across the coffee cups, I said, as if in confidence, "His thoughts are rarely consecutive. Can't read or write. I know a movie executive who's twice as bright." "Very good", said Sondheim. "I thought a mite patronisingly. Now sing it." I looked round the room, past the absurd indoor gazebo and the plastic heretic beast,

to where businessmen in pin-stripe suits were making deals and American tourists, in training shoes, were studying maps of Hampton Court. "Sing it!" I asked, incredulously. "Sing it", Sondheim repeated, with a reneance which made me forget that he had patronised me a minute before. So sing it, I did, and Sondheim congratulated me for proving his point. In proper (spoken) English the stress in that couplet is on the word "twice". When it is granted onto Richard Rogers's music, the proper emphasis is impossible. "Sloppy", Sondheim told me. "Sloppy." Intimidated, I ignored the implication that words are expected to fit music rather than vice versa, and marvelled at both the way in which a composer of genius demands that the libretto exactly matches score and the importance which he places on the nuances of meaning being clearly conveyed to a perceptive audience. I should not

have been surprised. I can hum all the tunes — if that is not too dismissive a word — from Sondheim's Company. But what fascinated me about the show, and fascinates me still, is the baroque aphorism which I would be happy to have engraved on my tombstone — if I had the slightest intimation of having one. "Good things get better. Bad get worse. Wait. I think I meant that in reverse." Last week, I watched the BBC broadcast the first Promenade Concert in which Sondheim's music has been included. It was one of those special low-brow events intended for people like me, who cannot tell their Arne from their Elgar and consisted of "Broadway music" — Gerahwin, Rodgers, Weill — and the great man himself. Most of the songs were pleasantly sung by an American soprano. But I was expected to be satisfied with the orchestral version of Night Walks from A Little Night Music. "The sun

slinks low. Leaving it's usual glow..." That is what the show is about — the half world of perpetual twilight. Leaving out the words is like exhibiting Donatello's statue of David without Goliath's head under his foot. It is not a compliment to the music. It is an insult to the musical. Sondheim says that the difference between opera and musicals is that operas are played in opera houses and musicals are staged in theatres. It is a dubious distinction since, to my certain knowledge, Pacific Overtures has been produced in both. So, according to Sondheim's criterion, it changed character when it moved venue. However, I know what he means. Audiences get what they expect. I expect the words that go with operatic arias to be gibberish. Oratorios are not much better. All we remember from The Dream Of Gerontius is Cardinal Newman's one show-stopper. However,

we expect more from Broadway musicals, and from Hart, Ira Gershwin and Stephen Sondheim we usually get it. "Another hundred people just got out of the bus... it's a city of strangers." That lyric from Company comes under the heading "Alone in the city." Wordsworth did it better. But the comparison proves that the best modern lyricists are doing all right. They are doing all right because they regard the words as more than something to hang the notes on. When I first met Stephen Sondheim more than 10 years ago, I asked him if there was anything about his career which he regretted. He replied, "It's alarming how charming I feel." It was not a comment on his character, but an apology for making Maria (the West Side Story teenage heroine) sound like Barbara Cartland. "That's something I've regretted for 25 years." It makes the words so seriously, so should v.)

Zulfana Diary

Julian Borger

IF ANY attempt is made to storm the Dalmatian coast this August, Nato stands ready. Well, given an hour or so to paddle back to the beach and towel down, it will be ready.

The archipelago of islands and the tapering Peljesc peninsula resemble an armed camp. Next to every sign advertising "Rooms, zimmer, chambers" it seems there is a Nato jeep or truck.

On Saturday night a group of Italian officers sat around a dinner table after a full meal of squid, scampi, chips and wine and compared paunches, measuring how many hand-spans it took to circumnavigate their girth. It was a self-deprecating and hilarious competition.

Zdravko, a local hotelier, laughed loudest. Zdravko wants to know when Europe's tourists are going to follow the trail blazed by its soldiers. He thinks the civilians are taking caution to absurd limits.

Further up the coast and inland, the chauvinist virus is more prevalent. In Split and Rijeka, more people subscribe to the views of President Franjo Tudjman, who insists that while Bosnian Muslims and Serbs belong in the savage Balkans, Croatsians belong in the civilised West.

I had the eerie sense after a while of being trapped in a Balkan twilight-zone making endless circuits of a scratched LP. Either Tudjman's speech was being continually repeated or it was herculean in length.

In my third village I summoned up the courage to ask the waiter to turn the volume down. He shrugged and disappeared indoors. Five seconds later, the president was bellowing louder than ever.

The car had not fully recovered from its previous 20-mile stint. It shuddered, spat and stalled after a few hundred yards. The road was deserted and virtually meaningless in the heat. The only sounds were the crickets and the distant rhetoric of President Tudjman, reminding us all that this was the heart of Europe.

THE PEACE PROCESS HAS BROKEN DOWN AGAIN



A giant step for microbes not men

Commentary Fintan O'Toole

MY TWO sons were talking about Mars. The younger one wanted to know whether there could be any life there.

It was hard not to feel some sympathy for Bill Clinton and Nasa as they tried to stir some sense of awe, only for their wide-eyed enthusiasms to fall into the reality gap that characterises contemporary culture.

For most of us, ignorant as we are, both the theory and reality of modern science are so distant that they have come to seem indistinguishable. For a scientist, the difference between life on Mars being possible and being actual is immense.

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small step is more rivetting than a giant leap for mankind. Our disillusionment with outer space comes from the familiar difference between travelling hopefully and arriving.

Our disillusionment with outer space comes from the familiar difference between travelling hopefully and arriving. On one of the BBC programmes that marked last year's 25th anniversary of the first moon-landing, an old Nasa hand described a moment of enlightenment that had descended on him when he was driving to work during one of the moonshots.

Now satellites are just things that rain Oprah and rugby league, Geraldo and beach volleyball, down on our heads. They produce the familiar signs of our own ennui. It is as if Columbus, having braved the unknown Atlantic, had reached the farther shore only to find it inhabited by all the people he used to avoid in Seville.

In their own way, the meteoric microbes from Mars are as appropriate as images of outer space for the passive struggle by local people against the cold blast of market forces which swept its industries away in the 80s, and their current attempts to find a future with work for all.

In the desperate winter of 1985, I joined pickets on the approach road to one of local collieries. Dawdon pit had been solid, but by January the strike had begun to fray at the edges. A handful of strike-breakers had decided to run the gantries, opening the way for a massive police operation to ensure that the green Coal Board bus that carried them, got through.

It was a bitterly cold morning, but the miners were in good humour. The hard-nosed coppers of the previous day had been replaced by a contingent from Lincolnshire, and when the push came, they almost lost it. Their mood was not improved by the Geordie miners' lively display of the Zulu warrior dance from the same film.

Four thousand of the town's 20,000 population then had jobs in three local collieries, but there were no Lincolnshire bobbies around to get them into work when they closed. Dawdon shut in 1991, Vane 'Tempest' and Seaham a year later.

Today the road to Dawdon ends in a flattened expanse of polluted earth from which nothing grows, except a couple of steel pipes that take away the methane from the abandoned shaft. The site has since been designated an "enterprise zone".

Now satellites are just things that rain Oprah and rugby league, Geraldo and beach volleyball, down on our heads

It is striking, for instance, that the only one of the moonshots to have been made into a Hollywood movie is Apollo 13, the one that went wrong. For the same reason, most of us, when we hear the words "space shuttle" think not of the awesome achievement of creating a plane that goes out into space and comes back again, but of a great explosive flash and a terrible plume of white smoke lingering in the sky.

Our imaginations are triggered more lightly by old-fashioned human disasters than by cosmic wonders. A banana-skin under a man's

European Union have pledged their support. Britain and France are even planning to offer aircraft and money for the transportation of troops to areas of crisis, and only earlier last month military leaders from 24 African countries met to assess progress on these plans.

Everyone was supportive of efforts to institutionalise conflict-prevention mechanisms. But planning for military intervention is a risky business: the Burundian military was prompted into seizing power precisely because it believed an outside intervention was imminent.

And the truth is that no conflict-prevention centre, however well organised and funded — and Africa has neither — can ever provide an answer to when is the best time to intervene. This is essentially a political question, and one which all politicians will try to avoid answering for as long as possible.

In the early stages of any crisis, an entire array of options would continue to exist, from cease-fires, financial assistance, the creation of safety zones, the evacuation of civilians or the introduction of forces. The natural tendency of most governments — as we have seen in Burundi — is always to opt for the lowest-possible commitment.

Less than it may be, the very notion of conflict prevention is simply not compatible with the nature of most democracies. Foreign policy issues are usually viewed by electorates as a diversion from a government's real task of improving the economic wealth: they only become important once a crisis becomes acute. No politician has won votes by claiming to have prevented a conflict which, by definition, never existed because it was prevented.

Conflict of interest

Can we stop wars before they start? Jonathan Eyal explains the paradox that makes it so difficult for friends and neighbours to intervene in time

AT LEAST for the moment, the crisis in Burundi has faded from world attention. Last week the country's neighbours started implementing economic sanctions with the aim of forcing Burundi's military government to restore the national legislature and lift a ban on political parties.

And meanwhile, all other states seem content to keep quiet while supposedly awaiting further developments. Yet, almost regardless of what ultimately happens, 150,000 of Burundi's citizens have already perished, and a further 600,000 have fled their homes. More significantly, Burundi's tragedy also discredited a concept to which all governments have paid lip-service for years: that of preventing conflicts before they take place.

The proposition remains attractive: preventing a crisis from erupting is clearly preferable to trying to douse the flames thereafter. Engagement at an early stage harnesses the cumulative might of international institutions, is considerably cheaper than tackling real wars, and saves lives. So much for the theory. So much for the practice. So much for the prevention of conflicts based on a

fundamental misconception about how governments actually work. Like all other conflicts, Burundi had to explode before anyone would take it seriously.

All efforts to prevent crises assume that identifying them early enough is the real task. Nonsense: the current disaster in Burundi remains one of the most predictable tragedies. Unlike Rwanda, the international community closely monitored the crisis in neighbouring Burundi. Only in March this year, for

instance, UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali warned of the country's deteriorating conditions and requested the Security Council to support a rapid-deployment peacekeeping force. Furthermore, the African states, and especially Burundi's neighbours, have done little else over the last few months but discuss the country's impending disaster. Yet little was done and the conclusion remains, therefore, inescapable: early awareness of an impending crisis is pre-

cisely what is not lacking. Today's conflicts are generated by either the break-up of existing states or their destabilisation from within by means other than outright invasion. Yet all the existing international security mechanisms are still predicated on a world in which governments exercise control over their territory, and where interference in their internal affairs is considered as an exception rather than the rule. Deciding when to ignore an existing central authority in order to start dealing with the real protagonists in a crisis is not easy. In practice, governments are always tempted to deal with existing leaders, partly because they represent known quantities and partly because abandoning a state's central authority too soon can actually precipitate the very disintegration that everyone

is seeking to avoid. Again, the example of Burundi illustrates this dilemma only too well. The coalition government overthrown by the Burundian military was the successor to a 1994 UN-sponsored arrangement in which 55 per cent of available government posts went to Hutus, and the rest to the Tutsis. Signs that this UN deal was breaking up appeared months ago, when Tutsi extremists systematically embarked upon "ethnic cleansing" near Burundi's second largest city, Gitega.

pit, "Ireland". If this had happened even 20 years ago, it would have seemed like a promise of some great national destiny. Now, whenever I think of Planet Ireland, I imagine its inhabitants moping around under a rainy August sky, arguing interminably about parades.

Thirty years ago, satellites wore epic images of adventure and expansion, evoking both wonder and fear. They seemed either to promise a great leap forward for humanity or to presage the wars that would destroy us all. Ronald Reagan's Star Wars project tried to mobilise both the hopes and the fears for political purposes, but ended in failure.

Now satellites are just things that rain Oprah and rugby league, Geraldo and beach volleyball, down on our heads. They produce the familiar signs of our own ennui. It is as if Columbus, having braved the unknown Atlantic, had reached the farther shore only to find it inhabited by all the people he used to avoid in Seville.

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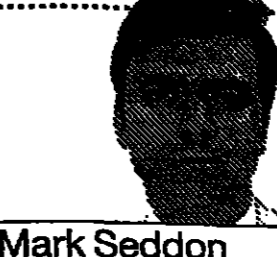
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Today the road to Dawdon ends in a flattened expanse of polluted earth from which nothing grows, except a couple of steel pipes that take away the methane from the abandoned shaft. The site has since been designated an "enterprise zone".

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Pitta bread and postcards in place of pits



Mark Seddon

IF ANY postscript is to be written on the passing of industrial Britain, it is unlikely that the east-Durham town of Seaham will rate much of a mention. It should. Not because the town was once represented in Parliament by Ramsey MacDonald and then Manny Shinwell, but because of the brave struggle by local people against the cold blast of market forces which swept its industries away in the 80s, and their current attempts to find a future with work for all.

In the desperate winter of 1985, I joined pickets on the approach road to one of local collieries. Dawdon pit had been solid, but by January the strike had begun to fray at the edges. A handful of strike-breakers had decided to run the gantries, opening the way for a massive police operation to ensure that the green Coal Board bus that carried them, got through.

It was a bitterly cold morning, but the miners were in good humour. The hard-nosed coppers of the previous day had been replaced by a contingent from Lincolnshire, and when the push came, they almost lost it. Their mood was not improved by the Geordie miners' lively display of the Zulu warrior dance from the same film.

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will amount to is a road to nowhere. Local people have plenty of experience of that. SOME of the ex-miners now turn out pitta bread at a local factory owned by a Dr Hosain Rezaei. With 150 employees, Prida Valley is now the town's biggest employer. Following a fire at his previous factory on the same site, the new one occupies 50,000 square feet on the Seaham Grange Industrial Estate. Local workers claim that Dr Rezaei does not like trade unions and discourages attempts at recruitment, although he says that union membership is a matter for them. A month after the fire, production workers were laid off, and despite Dr Rezaei's denials, many claim that that they were forced to take pay cuts when work resumed. Yet Prida Valley has been in receipt of several grants. The DTT has stumped up money from the Selective Regional Assistance scheme, but refuses to reveal how much. After several telephone calls from a local councillor, the DTT dived for cover: "This information is not in the public domain and so cannot be released." And yet the SRA usually covers up to 25 per cent of start-up costs for new projects such as these. It is believed by local councillors that Dr Rezaei has also received grants from Durham County Council and British Coal Enterprise. It is unlikely that the former shipyard workers and miners who have set a co-operative venture, Trade Union Printing Services, got much in the way of grants. But this Newcastle-based venture provides a ray of hope, a better way of work. The company specialises in printing journals for a number of trade unions, pensioners' organisations and disability groups. Poignantly, it also prints beautiful full-colour cards that depict all of the miners' union banners from a county that was built on coal, not pitta bread. You can order a pack (cards not pitta) by telephoning Geordie Maitland on 0191-222 0298.

MEANWHILE, some way removed from all of this, the talk amongst the chattering class of Clare Short's explosive interview in the New Statesman. Shortly after the news broke it was reported that a source close to the Labour leader thought "that she needed a holiday" which immediately vindicated Clare and her original point about unattributable briefings. A little self-indulgent she may have been, but Clare's frustration with "sources close to" is shared by a number of her colleagues. It should be by journalists in the lobby as well. The next time a "source" makes some claim or other, they simply have to ask whether this is the view of the Leader himself.

Paul Foot is away

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10 OBITUARIES

Sir Nevill Mott

Simply searching for answers

SIR NEVILL MOTT, who has died aged 90, was joint winner of the Nobel Prize for physics in 1977 and Cavendish Professor of Physics at Cambridge, 1964-71. Tall, imposing, perversely unfashionable, and disturbingly penetrating in conversation, he was one of the great theoreticians of our time.

Much time at the Cavendish Laboratory was spent on the side Mott. He was pleased because he felt that he may have been instrumental in stimulating the younger man. This was typical of him: he was always gentle and kind, especially to younger people trying to get to grips with a difficult problem.

(Copenhagen), Max Born (Göttingen) and Lawrence Bragg (Manchester) before he took the chair of theoretical physics at Bristol in 1933, when still only 28.

He had the ability to ask deceptively simple questions and the courage to back hunches

Nevill Mott's fondest childhood memories were of Giggleswick. Throughout his life, these tales remained for him the most welcome face of England.

Natural changes can transform insulating materials into electrical conductors, and vice versa.



Modest celebration... Sir Nevill Mott wondered if he deserved his share in the 1977 Nobel Prize for physics

There was, he argued, a very strong case for linking a substantial sector of state-supported academic research to truly long-term industrial needs and possibilities.

Rafael Kubelik

An instinct for emotion

THE CONDUCTOR Rafael Kubelik, who has died aged 82, had the fortune to be born with a name that was already famous in the musical world.

authorities were urgently looking for a candidate to fill the gap. Kubelik was offered the post and took up his appointment in October 1955. The company he took over, though it had already showed itself capable of fine work in the right hands, was in need of direction and a sense of purpose.



Guiding principle... spontaneity was always one of Rafael Kubelik's qualities

His intention was to build a genuine national ensemble at Covent Garden, yet still Sir Thomas Beecham attacked the appointment of 'another foreigner'

spontaneity was always one of Rafael Kubelik's qualities. He worked with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in 1949, becoming musical director the following year.

stage of his career was emotionally-based, as full of instinct as of reason. That did not prevent an intellectual approach to The Magic Flute in the bicentenary year which yielded much rich detail as well as a special sound for Papageno's bells.



Kenneth Fleetwood

Shining in the shade

KEN Fleetwood, who has died of respiratory failure, aged 65, was a modern rarity: a fashion designer who shunned publicity.

He and Hardy were a true team. In the volatile world of fashion, where friendships snap and jealousy overshadows generosity, they worked hard in glove for years.

was far from the case. Ken preferred the shade because it enabled his talent to flourish. Fleetwood was in charge of the women's fashion side of Hardy Amies for more than 20 years.

made her choice, visited Buckingham Palace to personally take charge of the fittings. As Hardy wrote: 'I gave me immense pleasure and pride to be able to introduce my protégé.'

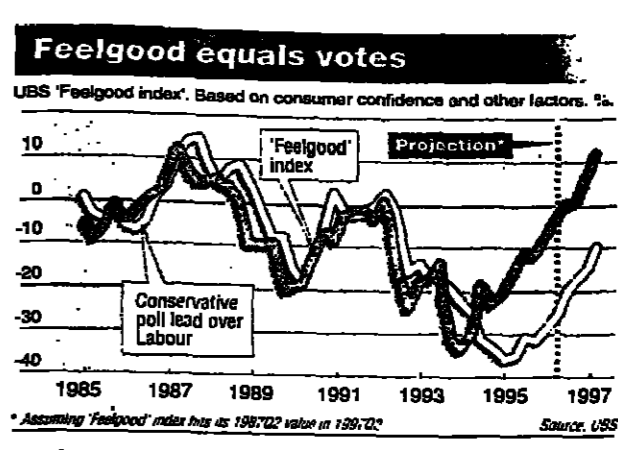
Birthdays

Elizabeth Appleby, QC, local government investigator, 64; Michael Branson, broadcaster, 55; Judith Baker, circuit judge, 48; Stan Greig, jazz pianist, 68; George Hamilton, actor, 57; Mark Knopfler, rock guitarist, 47; Dave Lee, jazz pianist, 66; Evelyn Martin, co-chair, Women's National Commission, 70; Norris McWhirter, compiler, Guinness Book of Records, 71; Sir Robin Nicholson, metalurgist, 82; Suzanne Reeve, chief executive, Foundation for Education and Business Partnership, 54; Pete Sampras, tennis player, 25; John Saunders, former assistant UN secretary-general, 80; Peter West, sports commentator, 79; Suzanne Vega, singer, songwriter, 37; Fred Graham Zellick, principal, Queen Mary and Westfield College, 48.

Advertisement for 'The Guardian' featuring a large 'DEMOCR' graphic and other text. Includes a small portrait of a woman and a 'Free' label.

Clarke turns deaf ear to inflation warning

DEBATE/Forget the economic tea-leaves, the Chancellor will be massaging feelgood factor for election, says Andrew Cates



FOR those reading the economic tea-leaves, the Bank of England's sombre assessment in its inflation report last week — and its belief that monetary policy will soon have to be tightened — should not have come as a surprise.

No matter which way the leaves settle at the moment, the picture looks the same. With about growth in narrow and broad money, retail spending (on non-food items) showing the strongest growth since 1988, and the housing market steaming ahead, the economy will soon be growing too rapidly to prevent inflation from moving higher.

But economic forecasts are fraught with error. So much so that the Bank doesn't even publish its inflation estimates, so as to downplay the importance of accuracy. And if they are so erroneous, why should the Chancellor even listen to what the Bank has to say?

The Bank is framing its advice in the way it is obliged to do — with reference to inflation prospects two years ahead and not to politics or economic growth. But those are the Chancellor's priorities. Kenneth Clarke can take or leave the Bank's advice. He has no one who will care on polling day whether he is on course to hit his inflation target or not.

He is the one who has to face the voters and everyone will remember if the Conservative Party loses the general election because the economy is slowing down under a tight monetary policy.

Since May 1995, when inflation was 2 per cent and the Bank recommended to the Chancellor that he should tighten policy, base rates have been cut by a cumulative one percentage point. That recommendation was based on the Bank's belief that, unless rates were pushed up, inflation would be above 2.5 per cent in two years time. But although inflation is now at 2.8 per cent, it is expected to drift lower in coming months. The Chancellor took a gamble by rejecting the Bank's advice last year, and won.

Despite its chest-puffing in last week's inflation report, the Bank does not seriously expect Mr Clarke to raise interest rates. It knows there has not been a Chancellor in more than 30 years who has raised base rates within six months of a general election. In fact, the base rate has typically been cut within two

months or less of a general election.

The Bank's intention was to signal clearly that under no circumstances should the Chancellor be contemplating a base rate reduction. Unfortunately, he is wearing his pre-election ear-plugs at the moment. His political objective is to generate growth in the run-up to the election because of the powerful relationship which exists between voters' sense of well-being and their willingness to support the Government.

WE HAVE calculated that if the Chancellor could deliver a "feelgood factor" comparable to that seen before the 1987 election, Labour's effective lead in the opinion polls could be cut to less than five points. Allow for some erosion of Tony Blair's voter appeal and the Conservatives still have a slim chance of success.

The most likely course for base rates is that they will stay where they are until after the election next year. But there is still a chance the Chancellor will cut rates (irrespective of the Bank's objections) if the manufacturing sector remains in recession, or if a renewed US dollar revival drags starting up.

Mr Clarke's roots are the industrial Midlands and he has a soft spot for the fortunes of the factory. Still struggling

under a burden of excess stocks and faced with pretty weak demand from many of their major European markets, manufacturers may not step up their production levels in the way that many, including the Bank, suppose.

Moreover, recent Confederation of British Industry survey evidence suggests that unit cost and price pressures in manufacturing are at abnormally low levels. Output-price inflation, one of the best leading indicators of the direction of retail price inflation, should continue to fall through the rest of this year.

It is the side-effects of this policy that the Bank is fretting about. It realises that the economy could become decidedly unbalanced next year, overly dependent on domestic spending with an overseas sector which remains comparatively weak. The deficit will widen and inflation eventually start to rise.

Mr Clarke, however, is not unduly concerned about the eventual consequence of his actions. And why should he be? It is the next Government that will cut the bill.

Andrew Cates is senior UK economist at UBS Limited

Indicators

TODAY — FR: CPI (July prelim), UK: Producer Price Index (July), GBR: German Retail Sales (June).

TOMORROW — US: Consumer Price Index (July), US: Retail Sales (July), US: Real Earnings (July), GBR: German Manufacturing Orders (June), UK: Retail Price Index (July).

WEDNESDAY — US: Non-Farm Productivity (Q2), UK: Labour Market Data (June/July).

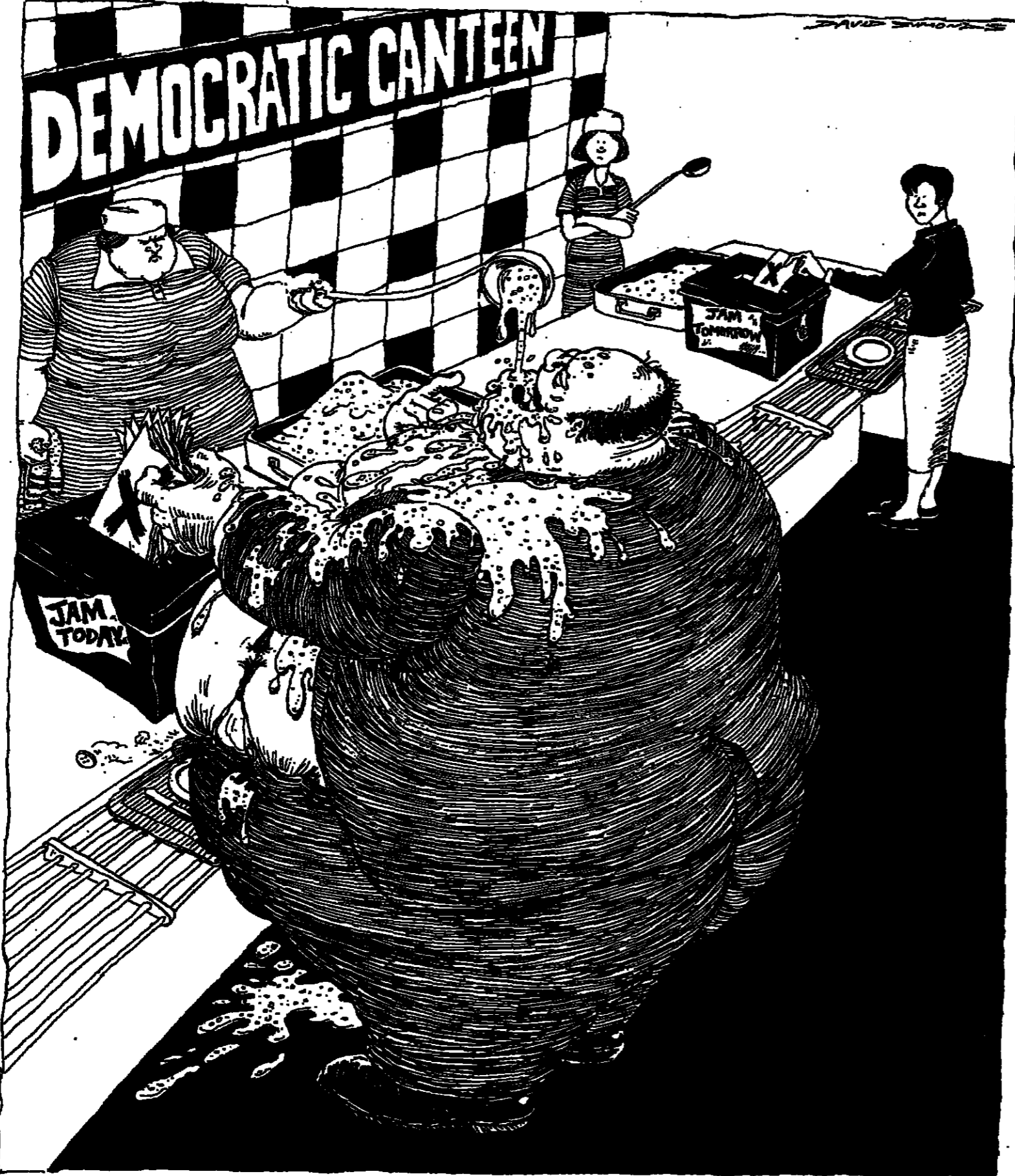
THURSDAY — US: Industrial Production (July), GBR: Wholesale Price Index (July).

FRIDAY — US: Housing Starts (July), UK: PSBR (July). Source: HSBC Markets Research.

Tourist rates — bank sells

Australia 1.93	France 7.39	Italy 2.312	Singapore 2.15
Austria 15.98	Germany 2.2800	Netherlands 2.0685	South Africa 8.82
Belgium 45.88	Greece 359.50	Portugal 2.5080	Spain 189.75
Canada 2.0750	Hong Kong 11.70	New Zealand 2.1925	Sweden 10.1575
Cyprus 0.8915	India 55.39	Norway 5.8925	Switzerland 1.8100
Denmark 6.8700	Ireland 0.9350	Portugal 2.3075	Turkey 125.412
Finland 6.87	Israel 4.87	Saudi Arabia 5.70	US 1.5160

Supplied by NatWest Bank (excluding Indian rupee and Saudi riyal) as at close of business on Friday



Free means expensive



Richard Thomas

WHEN the people of East Germany washed away the Berlin Wall seven years ago, a new global truth seemed to have been established: democracy and economic prosperity are two sides of the same coin.

Sure, the demonstrators who washed away the communist regimes of eastern Europe wanted democracy. But they wanted it, at least in part, because they hoped Big Macs, denim and Nike trainers would follow in its wake. The world's most successful economies were also democracies. If you wanted burgers, you got ballot boxes.

But this year, virtually unnoticed, nations west of the Atlantic will have been ditching this apparently cast-iron rule. Last week, Jean-Luc Dehaene, the Belgian prime minister, assumed executive power to raise taxes, cut benefits and set wage levels without prior consultation.

The reason for the emergency measures is that Belgium is criteria for joining a single currency — and des-

perately wants to be in the club. Even those who warned that the EMU project would erode national democratic rights cannot have imagined such an early reversal.

In the spring, the Italians — who also want to be in the European core — held elections in which the proportional element was diluted. The resulting Olive Tree Alliance is enforcing collective cabinet responsibility for the first time in living memory. Last week saw monthly Italian inflation fall for the first time in quarter of a century.

A new truth is emerging: too much democracy makes for bad economics. Understandably, politicians and economists are reluctant to come clean about this. In the western political lexicon, motherhood and apple pie rank way below democracy.

But there is mounting evidence that political freedoms do, at some point, compromise economic progress. In an article for the new *Journal of Economic Growth*, Harvard economist Robert Barro concludes that economic growth rates are negatively associated, albeit weakly, with greater democracy.

Surveying 100 countries between 1960 and 1990, he shows that while economic freedoms — free markets, rule of law, strong property rights and limited corruption — are powerful determinants of growth rates, political freedoms appear to have the opposite effect.

Although some democracy is better than none, lots of democracy — more frequent

votes, at more levels, on more issues — is worse than some. You can have too much of a good thing.

There are two reasons why this is so. First, voters don't know what is good for them. They want to feel good now, not tomorrow. Even if at some level we know a recession is necessary, we would rather put it off. And because politicians know this, the economy is run in line with our short-term, greedy wishes.

This is the argument that underpins calls for independent central banks. Because politicians will be under pressure to deliver short-run growth, they neglect inflation

those they believe to have soured up. We can do this to politicians who decide monetary policy. We can't do it to unelected central bankers. Independent central banks are less democratic, QED.

The real point that proponents of central bank independence make is that the loss of some democracy is worth it, because of the improvement in economic prospects.

There is no shame in making this choice, so long as it is clear and not befuddled by arguments about different shapes of democracy. People can choose to give up some of their democratic power in exchange for something else.

Keech suggests. Hence Italy's retreat from pure proportionality, and Belgium's U-turn.

Tough, unpopular decisions are harder to make when the support of a number of players is needed. As Prof Keech says: "It is impossible, by definition, for lots of people to bite a bullet at the same time."

By contrast, the "Westminster" style of democracy — with first-past-the-post elections and strong central executive control, seems to be associated with a better long-run economic performance. One reason the UK probably doesn't need an independent central bank is that it is a less democratic country in the first place: the insulation is built into the system.

The implications for British politics are painfully clear. There is an empirically proven trade-off between democracy and prosperity in industrialised countries. And, given the choice, most voters would almost certainly go for faster growth, not a bit more democracy.

Tony Blair has already watered down some of Labour's plans for devolution — and looks to be cooling it towards ER. If he is serious about shifting the economy on to a high-skill, high-investment path, this is a good sign. He will have to keep the levers of power within his own reach — even if that goes against his democratic instincts. Labour is into tough choices: here is a beauty.

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**Economic Politics, CUP.

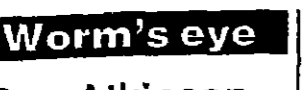
Most voters would almost certainly go for faster growth, not more democracy — and rising inflation puts the brakes on longer-term expansion.

Of course, those who want to take monetary policy out of the hands of elected politicians never dare to frame their arguments like this.

Professor William Keech, whose latest book " was a precursor to Barro's research, supports independence for central banks. He denies his stance is undemocratic. "Democracy covers a wide constellation of forms in which electorates play a meaningful role," he says.

This is hokum. Democracy does take many forms. But the starting point of any definition is the capacity of a universal electorate to throw out

Forget the bogus bistros, roll on the recession



Dan Atkinson

IF A MAN lives long enough, declares Martin Sheen in *Wall Street*, he gets to see just about everything. How true, how very true, and "everything" can even include one or two of his own predictions turning out right.

In this very slot, on October 21, 1990, your correspondent declared: "The bad news is that Britain is heading for a recession. The worse news is that the recession will end one day,

and the 'good' times will roll once more." There followed a brief tour of the horrors of late-1990s London (smashed beer glasses, fast-food detritus, manic construction activity) and the plea: "Cancel my ticket to boom town."

It has taken long enough, about five years in fact, but it has happened. The ultra-reliable Soho Pub Dispersal Indicator registered a 90 per cent reading on Friday night as watering holes in far-north Charlotte Street heaved with displaced drinkers. The respected Tack Unlimited index has been flashing red, what with the past fortnight's surge of invest-

ment in theme pubs, theme restaurants and fake French brasseries.

Meanwhile, the Coincident User Track Monitor has been boosted by the gruesome advertisements for the new TV channel. "Give me 5" (please don't). And the Countryside Destruction Data Check, moribund for half a decade, has leapt back to life with the developers' demands for permission for four million new "swelling units".

All these important indices feed ultimately into the Global "I Shall Scream" Economy-Tracker (as in, "If I see another plug for 'loft-style apartments', I Shall Scream"), which cur-

rently reads at near-maximum.

Men in suits, you see, are either at your feet or at your throat, and five years of them in the former mode have convinced us that maybe this time they really have changed. No, oh no. Just as the price cuts and the discounts of the recession didn't really mean the brewers and supermarkets had actually been converted to value for money, so the pleasing absence of 1980s-style monster leisure developments and hideous property schemes indicated not an aesthetic revolution in suit-don but merely a shortage of money.

Yes, the boom is here and

there is nothing for it but to sit out the duration in some doxy un-themed pub with a good book unavailable in audio-format and a few close friends who neither live in attics nor frequent bogus bistros.

Suitably ensconced, we can enjoy the only comfort available, namely the certain knowledge that, hours after the next election, a salvo of heat-seeking interest-rate torpedoes is going to put half these American-style sports bars, Internet porn suppliers and family-friendly kiddie-kit pubs so deeply under water that only Jacques Cousteau will ever be able to find them. Oh happy day.

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Forget the pussyfooting, Twickenham. Jump off the merry-go-round and star on the world stage. Just do it



Frank Keating

JUST do it, Twickenham. England should stick to its resolve and dispel at once all guilty second thoughts about doing the decent thing by Ireland, Scotland and Wales. British rugby crucially needs one challengingly strong and consistent in-

ternational rugby side on the world stage and it is not going to come from those wearing the green, the blue or the scarlet.

So the Rugby Football Union should immediately put a stop to any placatory pussy-footing, close its ears to the bluff-calling squeals of Celtic neighbours and announce, with bold finality this week, that the Five Nations' Championship will henceforth be played by Four.

There are bigger fish to fry for England and they should leap to the plucky sports goods advertising exhortation — Just do it; that is, Twickenham wants its international team to compete with the best in the world.

Quite simply, television deal or no television deal, England will banish themselves to the sparring-partners' make-weight second division if they continue to structure their annual-and-forever fixture list around a domestic backlist around a domestic backlist around a domestic backlist.

Amn, and alas, to all that. This is the real world and the idea that this is an argument about TV rights is a smoke-screen. Nor is it about honour and promises, as the desperate short-term Celtic prattlers pretend.

It is about awe-inspiring standards in international rugby football, as illustrated with such resplendent endeav-

ours in attack and defence by the XV's of South Africa and New Zealand a few miles around the coast from the Cape of Good Hope on Saturday.

In less than an hour and a half there was displayed at Newlands more skill, more daring, more technical and tactical awareness and full-throated athletic intensity than the Five Nations has managed so far in this whole decade put together. It was a match played, too, on a quasimired "European winter" surface and by two, apparently, over-dread teams who have often squared up to each other these past 12 months.

As potentially the most powerful rugby nation on the

planet — in terms of clubs and numbers to pick from — England owe it to themselves, their players, their supporters and, sure, to Britain itself, to get in on the act, and fast.

Twickenham's energies this morning should be deployed not in sweet-talking and soft-scaping (and backstabbing) its keen enough but minor-league neighbours about domestic television but in ensuring that 15 men in white shirts muscle in on next year's Tri-Nations' jamboree between New Zealand, Australia and South Africa. Let them make it a party for four — or, come to that, five — nations for, once England make the leap, the French will not be far behind.

And, hey presto, global rugby will still have its Five Nations' Championship; but a far more valid and globally competitive one.

England will, it goes without saying, have to suffer — probably until the end of the century — sharing the wooden spoon with France as Europe play catch-up on standards. But it should not take them too long; just think, before Saturday, South Africa's last defeat on home soil had been comparative seons ago, laid to waste by England, Tim Rodber and Rob Andrew in Pretoria in June 1994.

Nor need that endearing, enduring and warming social confraternity of old-time British rugby winters be alto-

gether lost. Once they have stopped yapping and looked the new realities and the facts of life square in the eye, it would be in their interests (and, certainly, their treasurers') for the Irish, Scots and Welsh to invite England across their borders for the odd time-up friendly fixture.

So all Britons could still, for merry memories' sakes, twirl their winter scarves around them, brim-fill the happy hip-flask and dance a jolly week-end jig up for the match to Lansdowne Road or Murrayfield or the old Arms Park.

But that is just for fun and the old friends and the crack. The serious British rugby follower will be twirling scarves at Heathrow, to the clink of

the duty-free, preparing to make not a weekend but a month of it, watching England in the Five Nations' World Championship in, say, Durban or Sydney or windy Wellington.

Twickenham should come clean forthwith and state, without equivocation and once and for all, that this has been their strategic scenario all along.

Their players, shamefully pillared to post all year, want to know they are heading for the big league. So do their sponsors — aye, and their supporters as well.

C'mon, Twickenham, stop wringing your hands over domestic television. Go for the world. Just do it.

England v Pakistan: Second Test, fourth day

Knight's century takes the honours

Mike Selvey sees a maiden century edge England in front at Headingley

ARACE problem manifested itself on the Western Terrace yesterday evening. Happily, it was nothing malevolent: merely an inability to peer through the Headingley rain and see the dates of forthcoming meetings at Thirsk and Pontefract, which were being projected on the electronic scoreboard as puddles formed on the sodden outfield.

Saeed Anwar and Shadab Khair only had time to walk to the middle to open the Pakistan second innings shortly after 5pm before the umpires offered them the light. They accepted and the deluge followed.

All of which was a pity, for although the Test is heading for a predictable draw, the weather had deprived the crowd of what might have been a compelling final session of play. Given England's start to this match, it was a pleasant surprise and a tribute to their tenacity to find that after four days it was they and not Pakistan who had taken the upper hand.

On Saturday England had cruised past the follow-on mark and, thanks to Alec Stewart's wonderfully cathartic century and fifties from John Crawley and Nick Knight, reached 373 for five by stumps.

Yesterday, after a start delayed almost until lunch, Pakistan's lead was soon wiped out and by the time Dominic Cork was abjectly caught at long leg by young Shadab, they had a lead of 53 after reaching 50, which is 45 short of their highest total on this ground and only the fifth time they had passed 500. So much for a doddie pitch.

Central to the piece was Nick Knight, who shrugged off losing his opening slot to Stewart and instead made his maiden Test century at No. 6 — the first hundred by a Warwickshire player since Dennis Amis in Delhi 20 years ago.

Knight, 51, not out overnight, batted with skill and confidence although he eventually drove Waqar Younis head-high to mid-off, but not before he had spent 116 hours at the crease to make 113 from 176 balls. If he had suffered any nerves beforehand they did not show as he cut and drove his way into the nineties before throttling back to his hundred.

When he rocked back and pulled Wasim Akram thunderously to the old pavilion for his 15th and penultimate boundary, he sent the air vigorously with his bat. The applause was generous, not least from Raymond Illingworth, who having had the hump over suggestions that he had ignored Stewart's century the previous morning, did an impression of a kid at an Oasis concert by standing on a chair and clapping until his hands almost fell off.

In *True Blue*, his marvellous book about the Oxford Boat race mutiny, Dan Toynski tells how he transformed a sluggish crew into one that made the boat sing by making a couple of subtle positional changes, and it is possible that by accident England, too, have stumbled on a working combination.

For this, finally, has been a team batting performance, with Knight's innings setting the seal. Luck has undoubtedly played its part, with Stewart regaining his place through injuries to Knight and Nasser Hussain and a bad decision in the first innings at Lord's that perhaps deprived Knight of a high score that would have confirmed his right to open. There has been



Look back in amazement... the England all-rounder Chris Lewis is baffled, beaten and bowled for nine during Mushtaq Ahmed's marathon bowling stint at Headingley yesterday

lively and significantly the total was reached with little contribution from Mike Atherton.

Just as Hussain's centuries this summer have revamped the position at first wicket down, so Knight has restored some prestige at No. 6. Including the Warwickshire batsman, England have tried 19 players there — three wicketkeepers, three all-rounders and 13 batsmen — since Ian Botham's last Test, at Lord's in 1992. With only four hundreds and nine half-centuries from 78 innings, it has brought scant success.

Collectively they average 25, and while the specialists alone move that to 37, a hundred has long been overdue.

Scoreboard

PAKISTAN: First innings 448 (Ijaz Ahmed 147, Moin Khan 105, Salim Malik 82, Asif Mujtaba 51; Cork 5-102)	
ENGLAND	
First innings	
M A Atherton c Moin Khan	15
A J Stewart c S Mushtaq Ahmed	170
N Hussain c S Mushtaq Ahmed	48
G P Thomas c Shadab Khair	16
J P Crawley c Moin Khan	16
D G Cook c Shadab Khair	11
N V Knight c Mushtaq Ahmed	113
J B Aitken c Mushtaq Ahmed	11
M C Russell c Wasim Akram	9
D G Cook c Mushtaq Ahmed	9
D G Cook c Shadab Khair	9
A J Stewart c Mushtaq Ahmed	9
A J Stewart c Mushtaq Ahmed	9
A D Mullally not out	9
Extras (7, 123, 252)	22
Total (194.5 overs)	691
England: 14, 121, 168, 257, 365	
West Indies: 105, 110, 128, 155, 172	
South Africa: 127, 137, 142, 152, 162	
India: 170, 180, 190, 200	
Australia: 225, 235, 245, 255	
England: 14, 121, 168, 257, 365	
West Indies: 105, 110, 128, 155, 172	
South Africa: 127, 137, 142, 152, 162	
India: 170, 180, 190, 200	
Australia: 225, 235, 245, 255	
England: 14, 121, 168, 257, 365	
West Indies: 105, 110, 128, 155, 172	
South Africa: 127, 137, 142, 152, 162	
India: 170, 180, 190, 200	
Australia: 225, 235, 245, 255	

Knight was philosophical about his success. "I didn't let the debate about the opening position affect me," he said.

"Although six was not my position, and I hadn't batted there since my early days at Essex, I was picked to play a role and I had to get on with it." He knows, however, that his success has probably put Crawley's career on the back-burner once more, for the chances are that only five specialist batsmen will be needed at The Oval in 10 days' time.

It would be tough on Crawley, who, having suffered the slings and arrows of the past year with some fortune, has played confidently on his return to the side.

But true competition for places is healthy, and, as Knight says, there should be no easy ride in Test cricket. Batting over the past few days has been closer to it than most, however, with the pitch getting slower and less responsive as the match has progressed.

None of Pakistan's bowlers will look back on the match with any great fondness, suffering just as England's had on the first two days. Wasim, Waqar and Mushtaq Ahmed, all took three wickets, but at a high cost and with the leg-spinner sending down 55 overs, more than ever he had before in a Test innings.

Bowlers on both sides will be pleased to get to the bounce and pace of The Oval. Batsmen may not be so sure: some foot-slogger is going to reap a terrible revenge.

Beware Waqar's sting in the tail

David Hopps says the Bradman of pace bowlers will bounce back at The Oval

AMID the ballyhoo before the Headingley Test about the bowling threat of every 38 deliveries — is massively superior to that of any fast bowler of the modern era, and virtually of all time. From this perspective he is a Bradman among the pacemen.

Allied to his remarkable ability as a leg-spinner, Waqar has always recognised the advantages of developing a certain mystique by hinting at prototype deliveries that are about to enter full production and turning every Test wicket into the script for a Hollywood movie.

Waqar, as befitting an out-and-out fast bowler, does not need to emulate the Australian by shrouding himself in mystery, except when it comes to his age. While touring Australia last winter, he suggested he was "about 24"; now he is generally reckoned to be 28 or 29. This fast bowling certainly takes it out of you. By such calculations, Fred Trueman must be as old as Methusalem.

Fully to appreciate Wa-

qar's threat, one needs to delve in Test cricket's statistics. His strike rate — amounting to a wicket every 38 deliveries — is massively superior to that of any fast bowler of the modern era, and virtually of all time. From this perspective he is a Bradman among the pacemen.

Of those bowlers who have taken more than 200 Test wickets, his closest rival is the West Indian Malcolm Marshall, who had a strike rate of one wicket every 46 balls. Other present-day idols, such as Donald, Ambrose and Warne, all languish in excess of 50.

What gives Waqar his edge is a singular command of reverse swing. When it comes to hurrying out a tail, he has no need to wait for a second new ball; in fact, he often prefers the old one. There has always been the belief that a well-timed yorker will account for a tail-ender. Waqar, by adding the attribute of deadly late inswing, has perfected a ball very much his own: the yorker.

At Headingley, though, Waqar's threat has

remained largely subdued, with Hussain and Knight deceived by slower balls and only Caddick unbinged by a ball of full length which swung in to strike leg stump. Such swing was seen only rarely. This Leeds pitch is not abrasive in the way that Lord's was — and The Oval surely will be — thus reducing the natural roughing-up of the old ball.

Additionally Waqar has struggled to combat the ground's slope and was vexed enough to complain of slipping on the mat bearing the sponsor's logo at the start of his run, causing Pakistan to ask the match referee for its removal. Unsurprisingly the TCCB seemed to suggest that the Union of Logo Removers And Allied Trades never work weekends.

All this confirms the suspicion that Headingley, even considering its tamed Test pitch, offered England's best opportunity in the series. The advantage that England's seamers initially frittered away has since been entirely removed by the weather.

Only one bowler in Test history, using 100 wickets as an acceptable minimum, possesses a strike rate superior to Waqar's. George Lohmann, a medium-paced English swing bowler, took 112 wickets at less than 11 runs apiece between 1886 and 1896, assisted by uncovered pitches that were occasionally described as "muddy" and a shoal of wickets at the end of his career against amateur opposition in South Africa. By then Lohmann was suffering from the tuberculosis that was to take his life in his mid-thirties.

One bowler since the war might also have matched Waqar's exploits. Before South Africa was barred from Test cricket, because of its apartheid regime, Mike Procter's 41 Test wickets had come one every 37 deliveries. Procter also bowled inswing at formidable pace, although he used the traditional method of spit and polish. Given a full career, and the secrets of reverse swing, what a performer he might have been.



Full cry... Waqar, though, has been subdued in Leeds

شكرام الله

Close, but no record for Cigar

Close, but no record for Cigar. The mighty Cigar was beaten into second place in his bid for the American record of 17 consecutive wins when outgunned by the outsider Dare And Go in the Grade One Pacific Classic at Del Mar, California, on Saturday night.



Go-getter... Joy for jockey Solis as Dare And Go ends Cigar's run in the Pacific Classic at Del Mar. PHOTO: KIMMASA MAYAMA

Cigar equalled Citation's 20th century American record of 16 consecutive wins last month in an invitational event at Arlington, but this was always going to be more of a test. The five-year-old Dare And Go, who won four races for Criquette Head in France at two and three before joining Mandella in California, had to miss an intended encounter with Cigar in the Dubai World Cup because of injury. The son of Alydar is still owned by the Wertheimer brothers, who race as La Presle Farm in the States.

Chris Hawkins THE comprehensive defeat of Glory Of Dancer, fourth in the Epsom Derby, and Nash House behind Tamayaz on the Rose of Lancaster Stakes at Haydock on Saturday suggests once again that this season's Classic three-year-olds are a particularly talented bunch. Significantly here the first three home were from the older generation and Tamayaz, who won by five lengths, is not top class. The Derby form seems useless - the first five have run eight times subsequently without winning - and this is not just the view of a jaundiced old critic. Even that super-optimist Paul Kelleway, trainer of Glory Of Dancer, is coming round to that opinion and is now thinking twice about taking on the older horses in the Juddmonte International at York next week. "Can the three-year-olds beat the older ones?" was the question he was asking yesterday. "Glory Of Dancer might not have been fully wound up after his break and seemed not to like the loose ground at Haydock but I'm looking at the Arlington Million on August 25 instead of the York race now. (Eddery) said he changed his legs and was stumbling about in that ground and from now on I shall only run him on the firm. The message from Italy was wait 'til you see him on the soft, but I knew from the way he went at home that he liked the firm," said Kelleway. Glory Of Dancer won the Group One Grand Criterium in Milan when trained in Italy as a two-year-old, but he had an operation on his knee joints during the winter and Kelleway feels it is because of that he lacks a solid surface under his legs. As for Nash House, he ran abysmally beating only one home. Peter Chapple-Hyam is an experienced enough trainer not to make mistakes in assessing his horses so if he says Nash House is good, you believe him. Perhaps this colt is one of those that is only good at home in the mornings, although Chapple-Hyam thought he may have broken a blood vessel here. If that is so this could have been his last race. Kieren Fallon marked the announcement of his job as number one rider to Henry Cecil next season with a two day ban (August 19 and 23) imposed by the Haydock stewards for careless riding on Insider Trader in the Coral Handicap. Fallon's association with Cecil poses the question about how this spunky 31-year-old Irishman with a bad disciplinary record will get on with a trainer noted for his suave, laid-back approach. On the face of it one could hardly get two less similar types but in their different ways each has a strong will to win. Cecil commented: "I think we'll get on well together. I've got a good feeling about it. I wanted someone young as you've got to be thinking about the future." Where this leaves Pat Eddery, who has ridden the winner of two Classics for Cecil this season, it is hard to tell although Cecil says he will still take some rides when available. Eddery manages to clinch the championship this season there is no doubt Cecil will have played a significant role (Eddery has so far ridden 31 winners from 97 rides for him) and without his support further titles are a forlorn hope for the 44-year-old Irishman. Of course, the enforced two months' absence of Frankie Dettori with injury has been instrumental in putting Eddery in a position to win an 11th championship which is a beautiful run through the rails to win with authority.

Anabaa makes it six in a row

Anabaa took another step towards the European sprint championship when extending his unbeaten record for the season to six in the Group One Prix Maurice de Gheest at Deauville yesterday. The 20-year-old Anabaa, trained by Jim Bolger, who beat Mick Channon's Muchea with the hot-favourite Vergas only third. Mantovani was ridden by Connor Everard who got a beautiful run through the rails to win with authority.

Ed Dunlop's Itamal finished fourth while Blue Duster showed early pace but faded into fifth. Young Ern was seventh and Easy Dollar eighth of the nine runners. In Ireland the Heinz 57 Stakes at Leopardstown went to 20-year-old Mantovani, trained by Jim Bolger, who beat Mick Channon's Muchea with the hot-favourite Vergas only third. Mantovani was ridden by Connor Everard who got a beautiful run through the rails to win with authority.

Leicester runners and riders tonight

Leicester runners and riders tonight. The following table lists the races, runners, and riders for the evening's events at Leicester Racecourse.

Windsor card with guide to the latest form

Table of Windsor racing card with guide to the latest form. Includes race numbers, names of horses, jockeys, and trainers.

Worcester (N.H.)

Table of Worcester (N.H.) racing card with guide to the latest form. Includes race numbers, names of horses, jockeys, and trainers.

Thirk evening programme

Table of Thirk evening programme with guide to the latest form. Includes race numbers, names of horses, jockeys, and trainers.

Carson set for comeback win

Carson set for comeback win. The attendance at Windsor today is likely to be boosted by the welcome return of Walter Swinburn, who has spent six months on the sidelines following an horrific fall in Hong Kong, writes Ron Cox. Willie Carson is also back in action after his fall from the ill-fated Mubarrat at Newmarket last month, and he could be quickly off the mark with Peter Walwyn's well-regarded Irtifa (2.30) in the nursery. The jumps meeting at

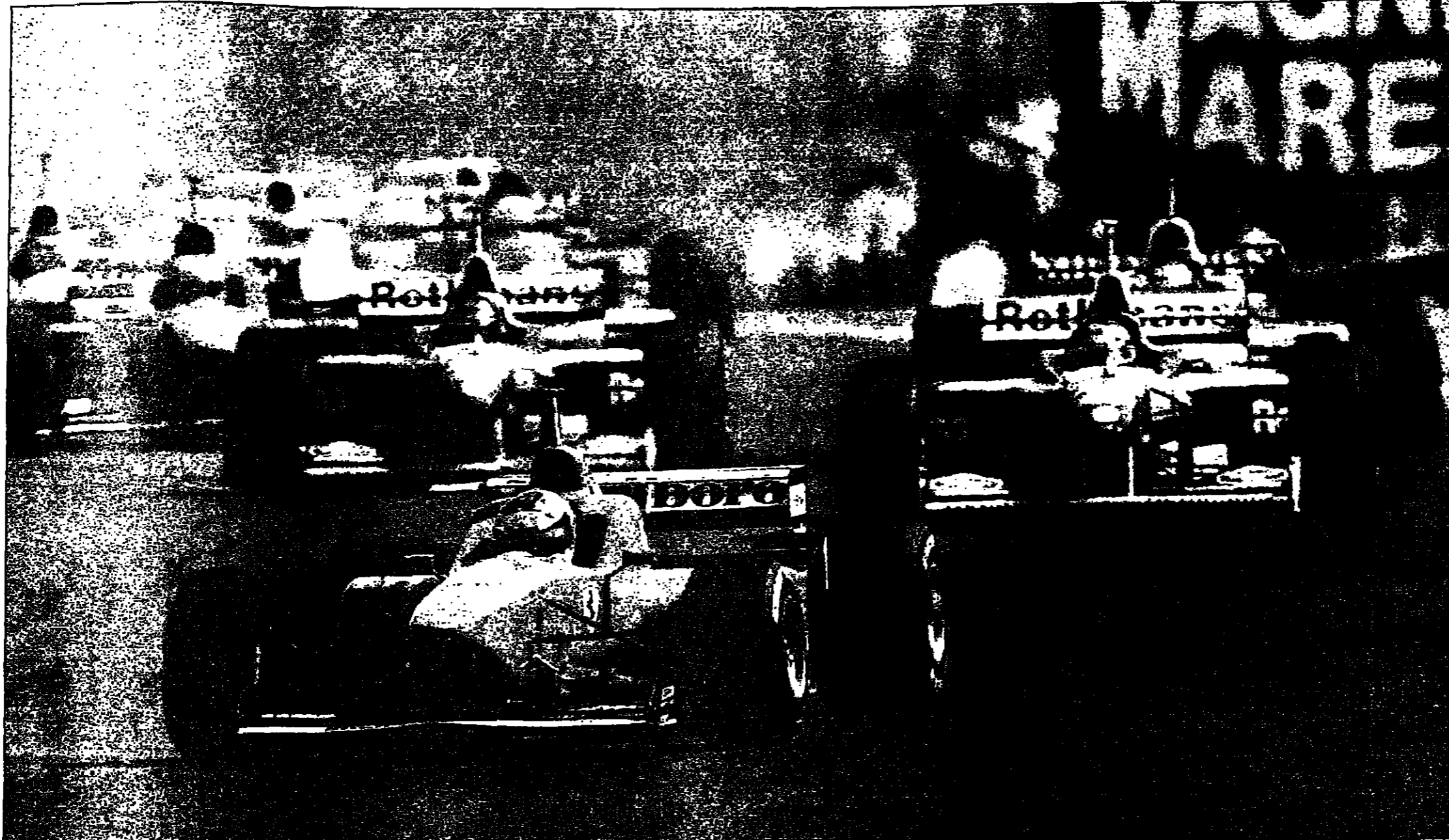
Windsor card with guide to the latest form

Worcester (N.H.)

Thirk evening programme

Carson set for comeback win

RACELINE logo and contact information for racing news and analysis.



Biting the dust... Schumacher, front, and Villeneuve, right, accelerate away from Hill, beyond the German, as the Hungarian Grand Prix gets underway at the Hungaroring yesterday. PHOTOGRAPH: DUSAN VRANIC

Villeneuve holds off Hill and closes gap

Alan Henry in Budapest sees the Williams drivers complete a one-two as the team clinches the constructors' championship

DAMON HILL's world championship hopes came under further assault yesterday when his Williams Renault team-mate Jacques Villeneuve beat him into second place in an exciting finish to the Hungarian Grand Prix here despite a thrilling spurt by the Englishman in the closing stages of the 77-lap contest.

Villeneuve's third victory in his first Formula One season reduced Hill's advantage to 17 points with four races,

carrying a maximum of 40 points, remaining Villeneuve was delighted. "It was great, especially because I was able to beat Damon on that track. I don't usually like that kind of circuit but this victory has made me very happy."

After a tactically demanding and complex battle Hill resumed after his third refuelling stop 7sec behind the Canadian but reduced that to 0.7sec - three car lengths - over the final 15 laps.

However, though the outcome of the drivers' championship remains finely balanced between the two Williams drivers, their team clinched its eighth constructors' championship. That equals Ferrari's record, although the Italian marque won its first title in 1961, 19 years before the younger Williams team's maiden triumph.

Behind Hill was Jean Alesi's Benetton in third place, almost lapped by the dominant Williams pair, while Mika Hakkinen's McLaren, Olivier Panis's Ligier and the Jordan of Rubens Barrichello completed the top six.

Michael Schumacher's Fer-

rari, having qualified on pole position, went out with throttle problems while running third with seven laps left.

Hill effectively lost the race when he was slow away from second place on the front row of the grid, having to race off-line on the dust as the pack sprinted for the corner. Villeneuve completed the opening lap tucked tightly behind Schumacher's Ferrari. Hill was bogged down in fourth place behind Alesi, a setback which cost him a second lap in the opening stages.

"I was particularly disgusted with the start," said Hill, "but, that aside, the race was a very good one. I had to push like mad to catch up, make up the gap. In the closing stages I was the fastest car on the track but I lost the race behind Jean in the first 10 laps. Michael and Jacques were long gone."

"The way the clutch works doesn't suit me and Williams have been working hard to provide me with a clutch I can use more easily. But we're going testing in Barcelona, where we can do more work on that. I'm frustrated about the way it operates. I don't know how many times the clutch has cost me time at the start of a race."

Having made that slow start, Hill believed he would have been better served with a two-stop strategy rather than the three stops he ended up with. "I thought I knew

what I was doing," he said, "but the strategy was changed after the first stop. When I made the first stop, I thought I was doing a two-stop until the time I came in for my second and I found out I was doing another stop. So it was a bit confusing."

In fact, when Schumacher came in for his first refuelling stop Hill stayed out for six laps in order to make sufficient ground on the Ferrari to stay ahead as he emerged from his own first stop. In fact, he dropped to fourth behind Alesi, only overtaking the Benetton for third place on lap 31 when the Frenchman slid wide at the first corner.

Villeneuve had managed to

slip ahead of Schumacher to take the lead during the first round of refuelling stops, after which Hill got a chance to make a realistic challenge to his team-mate only when the Canadian lost 10sec at his final stop because of a sticking rear-wheel nut.

In the closing stages Villeneuve did all he needed to, concentrating on keeping things tidy and not making a mistake. Although Hill's was the fastest car at that stage, the Canadian refused to be pressured and rounded off the afternoon confident that he might now be able to make Hill work for the championship up to the final race at Japan's Suzuka circuit in November.

Throughout the morning warm-up Hill had swooped across to the right in an attempt to clear the dust but obviously that had little effect.

Hill has made poor starts and thus squandered his front-row positions at four races this season. He uses a conventional foot clutch, control while Villeneuve, who got away cleanly, has a hand-operated electronic lever mounted behind the steering-wheel rim which he operates rather like a motorcycle clutch.

These two configurations are a matter only of personal preference. "Some people may have more feel in their fingers than some have got in their feet," said Hill.

In view of Villeneuve's consistent success in this respect, Hill might do well to consider whether it is time to take a leaf out of his team-mate's book.

Why Hill continues to make poor starts from the front row

The clutch of the matter

Alan Henry

TELEVISION viewers might find it difficult to understand why a driver has problems getting away cleanly from a starting grid in what appears nothing more than an 800-horsepower spring away from traffic lights. In fact, controlling a grand prix car with an engine which has a very narrow rev band is the technological equivalent of walking a tightrope.

"If you let the engine drop off its performance plateau the only thing to do is dip [press] the clutch," explained Patrick Head, the Williams technical director. "On the other hand, if you go too high with the revs, the wheels will spin. It is a very delicate balance to strike and maybe we [Williams] have dropped behind other people in the development of this area."

However, much of Hill's problem yesterday was caused by the build-up of dust on the right-hand side of the circuit, away from the smooth racing line from which Schumacher's pole position Ferrari and Villeneuve's Williams benefited.

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Athletics

Christie upstaged by Hansen as London farewell falls flat

DUNCAN MACKAY at Crystal Palace

LONDON CHRISTIE, who once claimed he could fill any British stadium, was faced with rows of empty seats as he began his farewell tour with a victory here yesterday.

The Performance Games were raising a fly-past for Christie and Britain's returning Olympic medal-winners, a moment for dipping wings and looping the loop before the appreciative fans. But only 5,000 turned out in the rain to give the former Olympic and world 100 metres champion a London goodbye. Four years ago such was the demand for tickets to welcome home Christie from Barcelona that there were ticket tents outside the Don Valley Stadium.

Christie won his 150m race in 15.08sec. Defeat would have been unthinkable and the opposition was ordered accordingly. "All good things must come to an end," said Christie. "I'll be back next year sitting in the crowd."

Disqualification for two false starts in the Olympics final still clearly rankles with him. "I think they cheated me, but that's life," he said.

All five of Britain's individual medallists were on display but they were upstaged by an Olympian who did more than go through the motions. Ashia Hansen grabbed what little glory there was by breaking her own Commonwealth and British triple jump record with an outstanding leap of 14.67 metres.

The 34-year-old Londoner was raising her national record for the sixth time in her career. Her target now is to break the 16-metre barrier, which would make her a serious contender for a gold medal at next year's World Championships.

As Hansen was travelling back from the United States last week she was being promoted in the Olympic results from fifth to fourth after the woman immediately ahead of her, Bulgaria's Iva Prandzeva, was disqualified for testing positive for anabolic steroids. "This was the performance I was looking for in Atlanta," Hansen admitted.

The hurdler Angela Thorp, third yesterday behind the Jamaicans Dionne Rose and Gillian Russell, was another entitled to mixed feelings about her Atlanta experience. She set a UK record of 12.80sec but was denied a place in the Olympic final because the

Russian Natalya Shekhodanova, who beat her in the semi-finals, subsequently failed a drugs test and has been suspended for four years.

Tony Jarrett, who fell in the quarter-finals of the 110m hurdles in Atlanta, scored a morale-boosting victory over the Olympic champion Allen Johnson and world record holder Colin Jackson in 13.32. The Briton was able to punch the air in triumph a stride or two before the finish line such was his superiority over the two men who had not

footed it from the previous night's grand prix meeting in Monte Carlo.

Mark Richardson is another athlete who left Atlanta frustrated. Food poisoning prevented him from challenging for an individual place in the 400m and he was restricted to a place in Britain's silver-medal winning relay team. His third leg of 43.82, the fastest ever by a European, showed he had timed his season to perfection.

The 24-year-old now has his sights on Roger Black's UK record of 44.37 after comfortably beating the silver-medal winner in the rarely run 300m, which included all Britain's relay squad. Like all the other athletes he was disappointed more people were not here to watch.

While the curtain is coming down on the career of one British Olympic legend, another has decided to delay her call. Tessa Sanderson, who initially came back just to qualify for a record sixth Games, announced after finishing second in the javelin with a throw of 61.24 metres that she intends to hang around for the world championships. "Us 40-year-olds don't just lay down and die," she said.



Hansen... record leap

Kenya to investigate Olympic flop

BRITAIN is not the only country wringing its hands over its performance at the Olympic Games, writes Duncan Mackay. The Kenyan Government plans to set up an independent commission to determine why its athletes won only one gold medal in Atlanta, the worst return since 1984.

"We must go back to the drawing board and find the root cause of all our woes," said Nyiva Mwende, the cultural and social services minister.

Several key members staged a five-hour sit-in at the airport baggage area when the team arrived

back in Nairobi on Saturday after they were told they would have to pay duties on electrical equipment purchased in the United States. They complained that customs officials were punishing them for the team's poor showing in 1988 and 1992 duties were not required.

Joseph Keter, Kenya's only gold medallist, was among a number of athletes who went straight back to the lucrative European Grand Prix circuit. Keter won the 3,000 metres steeplechase at Monte Carlo on Saturday in 8min 05.99sec.

But two other Kenya-

born athletes who were not even in Atlanta made the biggest impression. Daniel Komen, the 20-year-old who failed to qualify in the Kenya trials, missed Nour-eddine Morelli's world 3,000m record by 0.05sec as he ran 7.25.11; and Wilson Kipketer, the adopted Dane who refused to run for Kenya, won the 800m in 1.42.59.

Many competitors gave the impression they were turning up only for the money. Zurich, the richest meeting in the world with an annual athlete's budget of \$6 million (£3.8 million), and Cologne are two events taking a stand against the

spiralling appearance fees demanded by top athletes by refusing to cede to Michael Johnson's request for \$100,000 per race.

Friday's meeting in Cologne has cancelled the 400m rather than be held to ransom by the Olympic 200 and 400m champion. "Michael Johnson is too expensive," a spokesman said.

Brad Hunt, Johnson's agent, said Johnson will miss Zurich Wednesday and Cologne because he has not recovered from the injury sustained after the 200 metres in Atlanta. "The least of our concerns are a couple of meetings in Europe," he said.

سكنا من الصلح

Barmby hurt in Boro shut-out

FABRIZIO Ravanelli could not find a way past one of his old Italian enemies, Internazionale, in an uncompromising 0-0 draw at the Riverside Stadium yesterday which saw his Middlesbrough team-mate Nick Barmby carried after only six minutes with a calf injury.

Barmby is doubtful for Boro's Premiership opener with Liverpool on Saturday and a 20,000-plus crowd became irritated by increasing off-the-ball incidents.

Ravanelli, Bryan Robson's 27 million signing from Juventus, put the ball in the net only to see his free-kick ruled out because a colleague impeded Inter's defensive wall.

The game, a benefit for Willie Maddren, raised around £170,000 for the former Boro player and manager who is suffering motor neurone disease.

Gianluca Vialli admitted to being only 40-50 per cent fit after the whole of Stamford Bridge debut in Steve Clarke's benefit game against PSV Eindhoven which the Dutch side won 3-2.

The Italian striker has been suffering thigh trouble but said: "At Southampton next Sunday I hope to be 100 per cent fit, and you will see a different Chelsea."



Balancing act... but the £7 million Fabrizio Ravanelli could not tilt the contest Middlesbrough's way against Internazionale at the Riverside Stadium yesterday

PHOTOGRAPH: TED DITCH-BURN

THE WAY THE MONEY GOES

Why it is £22.5 million tough at the bottom

Martin Thorpe finds the game's accountants fearing for the future of Football League strugglers as Premiership clubs prosper

THE rich are getting richer and the poor are in danger of going under: Manchester United and Newcastle United combined have a greater turnover than the whole of the First Division; Alan Shearer's £15 million transfer fee is equal to 45 years of Torquay's home gate takings; his weekly £25,000 salary would pay the wages of all Torquay's senior playing staff for a month.

Professional football in this country is heading for a crossroads. Either it continues down this path towards more free-market disparity, which would threaten the base of the traditional pyramid of 92 clubs, or the rich, recognising that the strength of the English game is its depth, must take a collective decision to help the poor out of the financial gutter.

That is the belief of Gerry Boon, who put together the report by the accountants DeLoitte & Touche on the financial state of the English game

in the season 1994-95. "The gap between the Premier League and Football League has become a gulf and is in danger of becoming a chasm," he says. "The football authorities have to decide if that is what they want. It is difficult otherwise to see how some clubs will survive in the long term."

The latest blow for Football League clubs is not that they are still losing money — £47.9 million in the three years to 1994-95, in which year alone they lost £29.5 million — but the fact that the transfer income that traditionally trickles down from above to help offset those operating losses is declining.

In 1994-95 Football League clubs received only £3.5 million in transfer income, down from £13 million the previous year as Premiership clubs began to bow to commercial pressures to buy star names from either abroad or other Premiership clubs rather than gamble on players from the lower divisions.

That trend has become even more pronounced last season and this, prompting Mike Bateson, chairman of the league's bottom club Torquay, to say: "I don't like the way the game is going. I'm a believer in grass-roots football and there is a danger the grass roots could be swept away. The future doesn't look good."

This is despite the fact that English football saw its income leap 21 per cent to £468 million in 1994-95. However, the telling figure is that Premiership clubs accounted for £323 million of that.

Boon estimates that overall income will have risen by another 20 per cent last season and that Football League club finances will be bolstered from this season by their lucrative new television deal. However, any thoughts of their catching up with Premiership finances can be forgotten: once the Premiership's £670 million deal with BSkyB kicks in, the wealth gap will develop into a canyon.

Premiership clubs are also one step ahead in terms of operating profit, or what they make before transfer fees are taken into account. In contrast to the Football League clubs' losses of £22.5 million for 1994-95, Premiership clubs made operating profits of more than £49 million.

Take transfers into consideration, however, and English football made an annual pre-tax loss of £14.1 million overall for that season.

Amid all this, however, 12 of the 22 Premiership clubs made a pre-tax profit, the largest, predictably, being Manchester United with more

than £20 million. Next came Tottenham with £5.3 million, then Aston Villa (£3.7 million), Chelsea (£3.1 million) and Leicester City (£2.4 million). The largest pre-tax loss was Everton's \$9.4 million, though this was after heavy transfer expenditure.

Altogether the 92 clubs spent a record £110 million on player transfers among themselves, 20 per cent up on the previous year and twice the amount spent only five years ago.

English football's overall wages bill (ie, for both playing and non-playing club staff) has also gone through the roof, rising by 13 per cent over the four divisions to £243 million, which represents 52 per cent of total income.

In the Premiership players' wages rose even more, by 22 per cent to £80 million, while those clubs also paid out \$94 million to non-playing staff.

Boon estimates that the four divisions' wages bill will have increased by another 20 per cent last season.

But there is no guarantee that the lower echelons will be given the assistance to sustain such wage levels. All that the Premier League's spokesman Mike Lee would say was: "The Premier League is committed to ensuring that some of the new television money is used to invest in the future of the game."

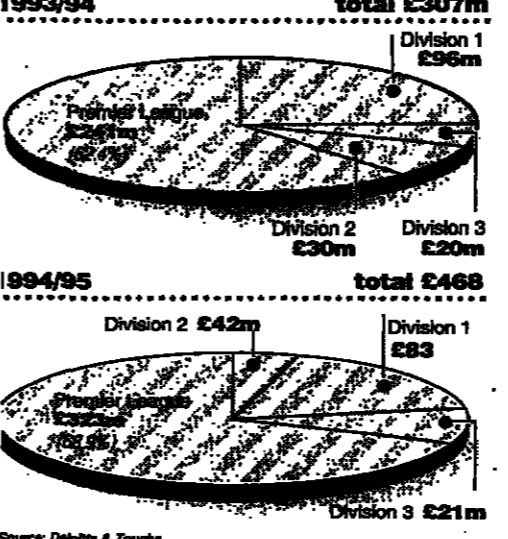
"The Premier League recognises the importance of the grass roots and we do ensure that there is a certain flow down of monies from the top flight." Those monies may not be enough.

The £21 million that Newcastle spent in the 14 months ending July 1995 was a record for a British club in a season, albeit a rather deceptive one in that the accounts covered two years' summer signings.

Stakes raised

Money has poured into football, the Premiership has claimed an even greater proportion of it. The game of professional football was worth £21 million more in 1994-95 than it was in 1993-94 and the top flight was the destination for 58.9 per cent of it as opposed to 62.4 per cent the year before. Much of this has been spent on larger transfer fees and increased wages.

Turnover



Transfer fees

Transfer fees payable over £5m (where disclosed in accounts), £m

Newcastle	7.63
Everton	3.80
Liverpool	3.70
Tottenham	3.71
Aston Villa	4.87
Manchester Utd	6.80
West Ham Utd	0.92
Arsenal	2.81
Wolves	2.96

*The figures for Wolves represent the net expenditure. The actual amount paid in the year may be higher.

Transfer fees paid in the 1990s (excluding purchases from Scottish and overseas clubs)

1990/91	17.2	46.03
1991/92	6.3	74.85
1992/93	2.5	73.21
1993/94	2.5	91.78
1994/95	2.5	109.90

£m, % increase on previous year

Employee costs, 1994/95

Division	Average club wages, £000	Average no. of employees	Average employee cost, £000
Premier League	5,251	116	45.3
Division 1	2,609	95	27.5
Division 2	1,086	59	18.4
Division 3	774	49	14.5

1993/94 1994/95

United in a desire to take a timely City profit

It is likely that more clubs will use the promise of rising attendances and viewing figures for the coming season to try for a flotation on the stock market. But the City is not a charity house and only likes winners.

Newcastle, despite yesterday's result, would certainly come into that category and are considering a flotation. But it is understood that their chairman Sir John Hall is cooling on the idea because flotation would probably reduce his control over the club.

United in a desire to take a timely City profit

Scottish round-up

Celtic's philosophy fails first test and Rangers underline the two points

Patrick Glenn

THE ESSENTIAL, and a potentially decisive, difference between Rangers and Celtic is that the Drox Park side, when their keys are mislaid, are strong enough to take the door off its hinges.

It is an advantage Rangers have enjoyed for years and one which Tommy Burns, the Celtic manager, recognises.

rights, merchandising, gate receipts, sponsorship and advertising.

But then again, the City is in benevolent mood. The stock market is near its all-time peak and because interest rates are low — there is a seemingly endless flood of money into the markets looking for a quick turn. Companies have to go out of their way to upset investors at the moment.

It was a different story at the start of the decade when football was seen as a rich man's folly, an industry awash with secret deals, "bungs" and bungling. It has taken clubs like Spurs years of toil to get their reputations back.

Television may have seen the game's finances transformed but financially there remains a technical problem with football clubs. Fans and directors hold the shares and rarely sell, so there is little trading to set shares' true value. Instead traders may simply mark the price of shares up and down according to the latest result or transfer rumour.

But, once tougher times return, clubs may struggle to convince City investors that they mean serious business.

So it is not surprising that some big club shareholders have taken the chance offered by the buoyant market to sell a few shares — what the City calls "taking profits".

Leslie Silver at Leeds received 25.4 million for his shares last month when the club was sold. Earlier this year Martin Edwards shed part of his family's shareholding in Manchester United for £21 million.

But they face further trouble as McKinlay is to be reported to the SFA by the referee. After the final whistle the full-back got involved in a mild altercation with Aberdeen's Rowson and appeared to say something to Hugh Dallas, the official.

Rangers' refusal to allow an identical form to affect their match was reflected in the 1-0 home win over Raith Rovers thanks to Steven's goal.

Millions to follow Tel to Pompey

PORTSMOUTH are hoping that Terry Venables can help them raise £5 million to revive the club.

Venables, who begins work at Fratton Park today, will become Portsmouth's paid director of football. He will not have a seat on the board but he has been given the option of taking a 51 per cent stake in the club for only £1 at any time in the next three years.

Martin Gregory, the First Division club's managing director, will use Venables' name prominently in a prospectus designed to attract a minimum of five investors, each providing £1 million.

The club, which lost £2.8 million in the last financial year and has a bank overdraft of £1.6 million, plans a stock market flotation next year.

"These are exciting times," Gregory said. "I've said all along that if we could get Terry Venables on board the club would take off."

"It's going to take time to sort things out but something has to be done quickly," said Venables. "It's a challenge I'm really looking forward to. The potential here is massive and that excites me."

Terry Fenwick, the manager Portsmouth appointed 18 months ago on Venables' recommendation, said the former England coach would pose no threat to his own position. "I'm looking forward to working with him again immensely," said the former England defender, who played for Venables at Crystal Palace, Queens Park Rangers and Tottenham. "It will be a great learning process for myself and all the players."

Venables was given a standing ovation at Fratton Park on Saturday when Portsmouth beat Bristol City 1-0 with a 57th-minute penalty from Alan McLaughlin.

Don Howe, Venables's assistant England coach, faces the sack today. He is reportedly to be offered a job as the Football Association's interim technical director.

Glenn Hoddle, who has appointed John Gorman as his assistant, cost Howe one of his previous jobs. Howe was a coach at Chelsea when Hoddle became manager in 1993 but resigned after being offered what he called a "token job" as a scout.

Lars Bohinen has expressed his growing frustration at Blackburn Rovers to a Swedish newspaper. "We could have been challenging for the title this season but without Shearer, forget it," the Norwegian international midfielder told VG. "The players are finding it difficult to come to terms with Alan's departure. The atmosphere has changed and the players are becoming easily upset."

He was particularly critical of the manager Ray Harford. "He is continually changing the team around," Bohinen claimed. "Training is very frustrating."

Lee Sharpe passed his medical examination yesterday and his £4 million move from Manchester United to Leeds should be completed today.

There is more to life than watching sport. Read about it as well. Sport '96, free every Friday in the Guardian.

Sport '96, the new weekly 12-page magazine, includes features by the Guardian's award-winning sports writers, updates on the week's news and a preview of the sport to come. Sport '96, free every Friday. *The Guardian*

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Five pages of unrivalled coverage

Cricket
Second Test:
Knight century
checks the
Pakistan attack

Motor Racing
Williams drive to
record victory.
Alan Henry reports
from Hungary

12

14

The Guardian International
Sport

FA Charity Shield: Manchester United 4, Newcastle United 0

Champions
without
charity

Newcastle's £15m
launch is wrecked

David Lacey at Wembley

FOR Manchester
United another
successful season
beckons; for New-
castle United the defence
rests. Yesterday's overture of
ferred Old Trafford strong
reminders of how the champi-
onship was regained and St
James' Park uncomfortable
memories of how it was lost.

Two goals in six minutes left
Keegan's side chasing the
match. Two more in three
minutes towards the end left
Newcastle to ponder the uncom-
fortable truth that it will take
more than the magic eye of
Sir John Hall to bring the
league title to Tyneside for the
first time in 70 years.

Newcastle's destruction as Lee
Batty and Beardsley were out-
manoeuvred to the point of diz-
ziness by kaleidoscopic pat-
terns of passing and
movement.

At least yesterday's events
will have reminded Newcastle
that the championship is sel-
dom won when goals are given
away so freely. Keegan's de-
fence played more in the spirit
of Green Shield than Charity
Shield.

Fortunately for Cantona the
referee Paul Durkin was chari-
ty personified. Otherwise the
man who has taken over from
Steve Bruce as Manchester
United's captain might have been
sent off in the 65th minute.

Since completing the eight-
month suspension imposed by
the FA for his assault on a
Crystal Palace fan Cantona has
been a model of self-control.

Beckham, so much more
effective when moving inside
from the right wing, sent in
Cantona to slide the ball past
Strickland after 24 minutes. On
the half-hour Beckham gather-
ed a back-heeled flick from
Cantona before centring for
Butt to head in the second.
Butt later went off with a con-
cussion apparently shared by
the opposing defence.

In the 65th minute Beckham
strode on to a Cantona pass
and lobbed the advancing Stri-
ckland. Two minutes later Giggs
rolled a free-kick square for
Keane to score an emphatic
fourth.

It was all the more surpris-
ing, therefore, that he should
suddenly seize Albert, Newcas-
tle's Belgian defender, by the
scruff of the neck and throw
him to the ground like a sack
of pommes de terre. Albert had
begun to remonstrate with
Gary Neville, who had just
fouled him, when Cantona
intervened.

Given the spirit of the occa-
sion Durkin was probably cor-
rect to show Cantona yellow
rather than red. But the
Frenchman was lucky all the
same. Keegan, when playing
for Liverpool, was dismissed
for less, and suspended for six
weeks, after a spat with Leeds
United's Billy Bremner during
Wembley's first Charity Shield
game in 1974.

Otherwise Cantona was
quite superb, orchestrating

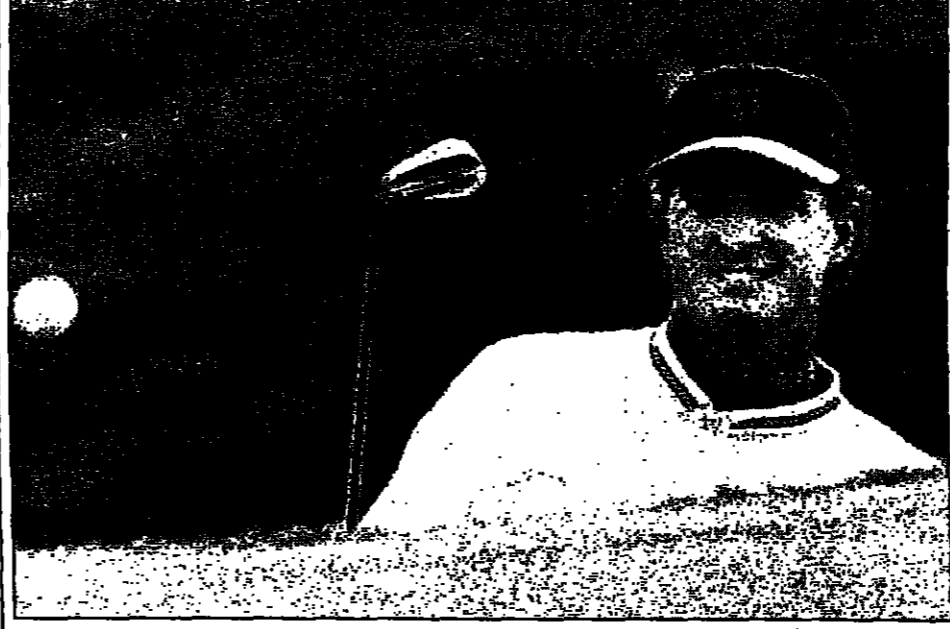


New season, old result... Eric Cantona, Manchester United's new captain, shrugs aside John Beresford's challenge at Wembley

Leader out of left field
was on the right track

David Davies in Louisville

THE 78th US PGA
Championship
seemed certain to
produce a fascinating
champion as the final
round began at the Valhalla
Golf Club here yesterday. It
was led by a lefty, but not Phil
Mickelson, the one who led
after two rounds.



Flying high... the left-hander Russ Cochran watches his shot

Desper Parnevik had a
chance to become a first
Swede to win a major and,
after nine holes, Tom Watson,
who had gone from three
under to eight under in the
outward half, had a chance to
complete a career grand slam
by winning the only major so
far to elude him.

was in itself interesting for it
indicated a level of resistance
to the idea and that Faldo was
uncomfortable with the concept.
With hindsight, it seems
he was right to worry. For
once, Leadbetter got it wrong.

was making an unconscious
statement. He was fitted out
immaculately in a very dark
grey trousers and a shirt only
slightly lighter with cream
collar and cuffs. It was the
sort of outfit you might expect
the man from Lloyds Bank to
wear: conservative in the ex-
treme, gear for a grinder, a
par person's clothes and for-
get those flashy birdies.

ball at chest height, and did
wonderfully well to get it on
the green at all.

It seems likely that after
dwelling on that first round
— and few conduct a more
searching inquest than Faldo
— he went out for the second
uncertain of his game plan.
His long-standing and hugely
trusted mentor was telling
him one thing, his instincts
another. The result was a 75
that was very like that former
New Zealand cricketer whose
name was Curtis and was said
to be neither one thing nor
the other.

Yesterday Faldo produced a
77, although this, because of
the way the course had been
set up, was a better effort
than either of his two previ-
ous rounds. "There were
some very tough pin posi-
tions out there," he said.
"Everyone will struggle."

He improved by four shots
on one hole, the short 8th,
where on Saturday he had hit
a huge shank off the tee and
then three-putted for a six.

Then he holed the putt. He
greeted it with his best ironic
grin and immediately holed
another long one, at the 12th,
statistically the hardest hole
on the course. It is made so by
the second shot, which has to
be hit over a chasm through
an avenue of trees to an ele-
vated green. It demands a pre-

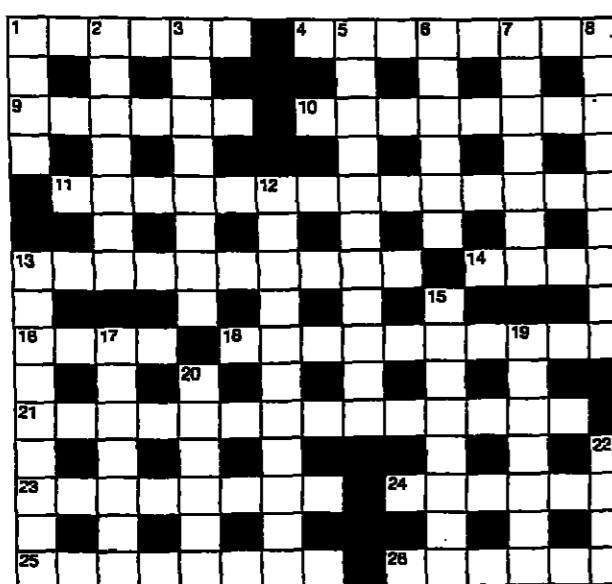
The use of the word "coax"
The third round followed
the same pattern, although it
seemed possible that Faldo,
by the manner of his dress,

Like the other Springbok
forwards, Teichmann — de-
putising for the captain Francois
Pienaar, who was being X-

rayed for a "lower neck in-
jury" — had just produced one
of the most extraordinary per-
formances of individual and
team commitment ever seen.

Unfortunately defending
takes a lot out of you," said
Teichmann. "The All Blacks
had long periods where they
dominated."

Guardian Crossword No 20,729
Set by Hendra



- Across
1 Fashionable attempt to
keep bottom in (6)
4 Misfortune of personality in
stress (5)
9 Foreign Office with its back
to the wall? (5)
10 Twisting to reveal muscle (8)
11 Engaged maid regretting
the outcome? (7,7)
13 Neat detour on a country-
road (5-4)
14 Surrender of top player
reported (4)
16 Absorbed in contraptions
(4)
18 But do bank tellers make
them? (10)
21 Knowing form at start,
aware of position in race?
(5-9)
23 Pure tar substance to be
dissolved (8)
24 Recipe, resort that is wild
and unrestrained (6)
25 Display of photographer's
work (6)
26 Were these early settlers
crooks? (5)
Down
1 Identification labels of flying
bats (4)
2 Keen to win set pieces,
possibly (7)
3 Heart's-ease, say, filling
one's chambers (5)
5 Sue claimant recklessly for
slanders (11)
6 Turn turtle which is lacking
backbone in upper half (6)
7 Ravel went wrong in end of
piece (7)
8 Dirt's seen, result fatigue (9)
12 He may carry cases of dark,
strong ale (5-6)
13 Rail to grate on the ear? (5)

Manchester United: Szymanski; Irwin;
G. Neville; H. May; Pallister; P. Neville;
Beckham; Butt; P. Roberts; Atkinson; Keane;
Giggs; Scholes; Croft; 66; Cantona;
Newcastle United: Strickland; Watson;
P. Abbott; Albert; Beresford; Beardsley;
Nesbitt; 69; Lee; Batty; Givnish; 71;
Shearer; Ferdinand;
Referee: P. Durkin (Portland).

More soccer, page 15

15 End of drive? (8)
17 What one does in polo,
gives trouble (5,2)
19 Ne plus ultra party oddly
nonaligned (7)
20 Sunday, among the trees,
for Songs of Praise (6)
22 Old coins buried in Treasure
Island (4)
Solution tomorrow

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GPs refuse
to aid gun
vetting law

Inside